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CONTENTS

Soviet Union

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Views on Prospects for Disarmament Agreement AA 1
INF Agreement 'Would Help' AA 1
Analysis of U.S. Views AA 1
[Koryavin in IZVESTIYA 17 Mar]
Aspin Remarks Derided AA 3
[Kuznetsov in PRAVDA 14 Mar]
Levin on Aspin Arms Remarks AA 5
Sofaer Letter to Nunn Noted AA 6
Ponomarev: Arms Race 'Crisis of Capitalism' AA 7

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

CEMA-EEC Experts Meeting Opens in Geneva CC 1
Western Reaction to CPSU CC Address Surveyed [Zholkver] CC 1

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Kornilov Views USIA Director Wick's Skepticism A 1
New York Roundtable Discusses U.S.-USSR Trade A 2

CHINA

Rogachev, PRC Envoy Exchange Consular Treaty Papers B 1
Zhao, Li Cited on 'Bourgeois Liberalization' B 1
PRAVDA on Zhao Speech [15 Mar] B 1
TASS on Li Remarks B 1
Friendship Societies Honor Writer Ding Ling B 2
Taiwan-U.S. Ties Unchanged by Shultz' PRC Visit B 2
[Alekseyev]
Former Envoy to U.S. Criticizes U.S. Democracy B 3
[PRAVDA 12 Mar]

NORTHEAST ASIA

DPRK Party Leader Ends Visit to Moscow 18 Mar C 1
Interview With DPRK's Kim Yong-nam Cited C 1
Military Commentator on U.S. Moves in Asia C 1
[Assatorov]

SOUTH ASIA

Najibullah Says Reconciliation Policy Growing D 1
[PRAVDA 26 Feb]
Group Surrenders After 7-Year Fight in DRA D 2
[Leshchinskiy]

Paper Notes Stinger Shipment 'Thwarts DRA Harmony' D 3
[Oliynik in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 17 Mar]
Indian, Romanian Presidents Cited on Arms Curbs D 4
[PRAVDA 12 Mar]
Supreme Soviet, Nepalese King Exchange Cables D 4
[IZVESTIYA 14 Mar]

SOUTH EAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Anniversary of U.S.-Philippines Agreement Noted E 1
[Almazov]
Philippines Against 'Plans' To Expand CIA Role E 2
Childress Visit Viewed as Proof of U.S. Meddling E 3
Moscow TV Reports on CPSU Delegation in SRV E 4
[Krichevskiy]
SRV's Nguyen Van Linh Greets Cambodian Delegation E 4
Lao Party Workers Received by Razumovskiy E 5
[PRAVDA 11 Mar]

EASTERN EUROPE

USSR Peace Aim Cited in PRC's Wu Talks in Bulgaria F 1
Meeting With Mladenov F 1
Meeting With Zhivkov [PRAVDA 18 Mar] F 1
Polish Sejm Supports Proposal on Euromissiles F 1
CSSR Experts Counter Western Propaganda F 2
[Chausov in PRAVDA 16 Mar]

WESTERN EUROPE

U.S. Attempting 'Nuclear Blackmail' in Turkey G 1
[Vavilov]
Arms Reduction Discussed With Spanish Officials G 2
Yakovlev Party Departs Spain, Arrives in Moscow G 2
UK's Howe Hails INF Cut Plan But Seeks Euroarms G 3
[Surguchev]
Other UK Reaction Noted G 4
[Sagaydak in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 18 Mar]
British Businessmen Favor Expansion of Trade G 5
[Shishkovskiy, Stepanov]
FRG's Khol Foreign Policy Stand Viewed G 6
European Parliament Delegation Confers on Trade G 6
Meeting With Zagladin G 7
USSR-Italy Working Group on Agriculture Convenes G 7

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Afro-Asian Solidarity Group Visits Egypt H 1
'Big Contract' for Coke Oven Signed With Egypt H 1

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

TASS Interviews GUNT Deputy Chairman on Situation J 1
IZVESTIYA Assesses U.S. Angolan Relations J 1
[Konopikhin 17 Mar]
Humanitarian Aid to Ethiopia Continued J 3

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Listov: Blockage of Nicaragua 'Road to Nowhere' K 1
[PRAVDA 7 Mar]
Ortega Links C. America Peace to U.S. Attitude K 3
Castro Addresses Rally Marking 1957 Student Rising K 3
[PRAVDA 15 Mar]

USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

PRAVDA Cites Gromyko Kalinin Oblast Address [14 Mar] R 1
Dolgikh Speaks in Orenburg on Restructuring R 7
[PRAVDA 13 Mar]
PRAVDA on Kunayev, Reform in Kazakhstan R 11
[Dildyayev, Yesilbayev, 16 Mar]
Komsomol Daily on Congress in Kazakhstan R 15
[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 11 Mar]
TASS Notes Chernobyl-Related Trials To Begin R 20
AFP Cites Petrosyants R 20
Several Dead, Missing in Tajik Mudslide Disaster R 20
[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 18 Mar]
Relief Work at Site R 21

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Smirnov Writes on Economic Slowdown Factors S 1
[PRAVDA 13 Mar]
Production Expands at Estonia Plastics Factory S 7

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Meteorologist Expects Spring Floods, Ice Jams T 1
[Zhidkov, Alimov in IZVESTIYA 13 Mar]
Spring Floods Pose 'No Radioactivity Threat' T 2
[Odinets in PRAVDA 15 Mar]
Media Covers 15-18 Mar Agricultural Work T 4
Board Publishes Figures on Kolkhozes Since 1970 T 4

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

TASS Announces Launch of Cosmos-1833 Satellite U 1
Cosmonauts Continue Work Aboard 'Mir' Complex U 1

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

'Dialogue' Examines Multinational Units Policy V 1
[Bezrodnyy, Goncharov in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 12 Mar]
Briefs: Conscripts' Physical Condition V 6

VIEWS ON PROSPECTS FOR DISARMAMENT AGREEMENT

INF Agreement 'Would Help'

LD171508 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0530 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] The disarmament conference is continuing in Geneva. A quarter century ago, the first session took place of this body for multilateral talks organized with the aim of drafting and coordinating an agreement on arms limitation and disarmament. This forum drafted a number of important international agreements in force today. However, in recent years the conference has been marking time as the saying goes. This stagnation is connected first and foremost with the position taken by the Reagan administration. Nevertheless, as a result of the efforts of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, supported by the nonaligned states, success has been made in appreciably improving the situation at the conference. At present, talks are being held on banning and scrapping chemical weapons. This is what Yuriy Konstantinovich Nazarkin, head of the Soviet delegation in Geneva, said in an interview to our correspondent in Geneva:

[Begin Nazarkin recording] The aim of these talks is to draw up and conclude a convention that would exclude this kind of mass destruction weaponry from the life of mankind's society. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement of 15 January last year, in which he put forward a proposal on the banning of chemical weapons, initiated the beginning of an active phase of talks. In the course of last year, and this year too after the conference resumed on 3 February, the Soviet Union has put forward several series of proposals in the sphere of banning chemical weapons that have helped to shift the talks to a decisive phase and has made the concluding of a convention this year quite realistic. Active work is going on at the talks now to agree on the provisions of the convention. The matter of averting an arms race in space is very important. It is being examined, as is known, at both the bilateral Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons and here at the disarmament conference. The point is that space does not surround only the United States and the Soviet Union, but also all other countries and peoples. Therefore, great attention is being devoted to this issue at the conference.

In describing the mood of the present situation at the conference one must not pass over the huge impression that has been made on its participants by the advancing of a new initiative on medium range missiles by the Soviet Union. Of course, this proposal only concerns the appropriate armaments of the United States and the Soviet Union. However, the significance of a Soviet-U.S. agreement on this issue would far exceed the bilateral limit. This is very well understood here and the Soviet initiative is welcomed. Its implementation would help in resolving many other problems including those on the agenda of the disarmament conference. [end recording]

Analysis of U.S. Views

PM171407 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent L. Koryavin dispatch: "What Americans Think About the Soviet Proposals"]

[Text] Washington -- The topic of arms control, which has received a new impetus in the form of the statement on the elimination of medium-range missiles issued by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, continues to be discussed in Washington political circles.

It is also featured in newspapers, television broadcasts, and speeches by state and public figures. Things that were suppressed for years have come into the open recently.

No one any longer dares to distort the truth and to deny that the Soviet Union has put forward constructive initiatives which open up real opportunities for achieving accords in the disarmament sphere.

Up to a point, the tenor of U.S. press reports is also changing. TIME magazine, for instance, emphasizing that the reaction to M.S. Gorbachev's statement is "very favorable," cites pronouncements by both American and West European politicians which reflect a certain amount of optimism about the prospects of the talks. The magazine describes the Soviet proposal as a "substantial step forward" and points out that "both sides have reason to seek the conclusion of a disarmament agreement."

M. Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks, is currently in Washington for consultations with the U.S. President. In his interview on the MacNeil-Lehrer program on television, certain key changes in his approach to the Soviet-American dialogue were noticeable.

In addition to his meetings with R. Reagan who, as reported, expressed a positive attitude to the Soviet proposals, the U.S. representative had talks, or rather -- as he emphasized -- "exhaustive consultations" in various U.S. departments including the military and the intelligence departments. He came to the conclusion that there is a real opportunity now to conclude an agreement on medium-range missiles and then to tackle accords on reducing strategic arms.

However, despite all the optimistic assessments, it is impossible to overlook the fact that most U.S. commentaries invariably cite all sorts of conditions with respect to future accords such as, for instance, the need to set up a special institution for "inspection and verification" [inspektsiya i proverka] and present distorted facts about "Soviet superiority" in conventional arms or operational and tactical missiles. This is also true of the selfsame Kampelman interview in which, while assessing the prospects of the talks positively, he expressed many reservations.

Another detail is also illustrative: The fact that the Soviet Union has put forward more than one proposal on other types of nuclear arms and that it has emphasized that it is ready at any time to embark on practical talks on disarmament in other spheres is being suppressed in the United States.

Demands in the shape of ultimatums have also been expressed there. It has been said that, allegedly, it is necessary first of all to carefully calculate the balance of forces in Europe and only then to eliminate the Pershings. This is precisely what Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, has advocated, pleading "supreme national interests." He complained that an agreement of medium-range missiles "could weaken the West European defense system."

However, observers perceive narrower than "national" interests in this new statement by S. Nunn. As is known, the Democrat from Georgia is planning to run for president and, according to observers, he does not want to give the Republicans the chance to conclude an agreement on arms control which the U.S. voters have long been calling for. They take the view that stopping the arms race is precisely what is in the national interests of the United States.

Aspin Remarks Derided

PM181003 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[Reprint of article in 9 March issue of the magazine DEFENSE NEWS by correspondent Timothy Christman followed by an article by PRAVDA international observer Yuriy Kuznetsov in response to it published under the rubric: "Different Viewpoints"]

[Text] "'The United States Must Keep 50 Medium-Range Missiles in Europe,' Congressman Aspin Warns" [headline of Christman reprint]

According to Congressman Aspin, in order to maintain political stability in Europe, the United States must reduce its medium-range ballistic missiles "to approximately 50" instead of accepting Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal on their total elimination.

Aspin, chairman of the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, stressed in an address to defense industry representatives last Tuesday, that the Geneva INF talks are a political rather than military problem. He added that Gorbachev's proposal on eliminating all U.S. Pershing and ground-based cruise missiles, along with Soviet SS-20 and SS-4 missiles, had satisfied left-wing forces, but had displeased right-wing forces in Europe.

According to Aspin, the left wants the withdrawal of all U.S. missiles from European territory, whereas the right views these missiles as a sign of U.S. dedication to the use of nuclear weapons for the defense of Europe.

"If you want to get a politically stable solution out of all this, it is necessary to reduce the number of missiles to an equal level on both sides...and reach agreement on verification," Aspin said.

The Armed Services Committee chairman told the participants of the quarterly seminar in the Congress that verification would be the biggest obstacle to the implementation of his idea of retaining approximately 50 missiles on either side. He added that the Reagan administration has elaborated a proposal on verification of the observance of a ballistic missile agreement, which, in his opinion, is "too rigorous."

"To all appearances, it is a very rigorous proposal requiring a large number of on-site inspections," he said. Aspin added that the proposal had been sent to some European allies and they took a "very negative" view of it.

Despite the problems which, he believes, will crop up if the zero option is adopted, Aspin says that it will give the correct signal to left-wing political forces in Europe. "The signal is that a buildup is important for reductions," Aspin stated.

"Left-wing forces in all countries believe that peace can be achieved by cutting one's own weapons," he explained. "I think that to achieve an agreement with the Soviet Union, buildup (of armaments) is necessary.' Aspin pointed out that if Europe had not gone along with the deployment of Pershing and ground-based cruise missiles, the likelihood of the Soviets' dismantling their own SS-20's would be effectively zero.

A Cat Emerges [headline of Kuznetsov response]

In our view, L. Aspin's speech essentially reflects Washington's current desire to reassure the representatives of the mighty military-industrial complex -- don't worry, it says, we will not allow a sharp reduction in missile arsenals, and even if we have to hold talks we will make an accord dependent on tough verification demands.

How does this square with the congressman's view that the Reagan administration has elaborated a proposal on verification of a ballistic missiles agreement that is "too rigorous"? Aspin points out that certain U.S. allies took a "very negative" view of this proposal. Essentially he is telling the White House that it must operate more subtly, since excessive verification demands betray a reluctance to make a serious contribution to arms reductions.

Aspin makes a specific proposal: Not eliminate medium-range missiles altogether, but... leave "approximately 50"! In other words, the representatives of the "defense industry" in the United States will get their own way. The people in the West European captials who see the shadow cast by the palisade of U.S. missiles as an essential part of their countries' future will also rest easier.

But to appease U.S. and other apologists of nuclear deterrence even further, Aspin concludes that only the "Left" wants all U.S. missiles withdrawn from European territory. It also generally believes, says the U.S. figure in an attempt at irony, that arms reduction serves peace. Then a rather large cat emerged from Mr Aspin's bag of arguments -- "I think that to achieve an agreement with the Soviet Union it is necessary to build up armaments." The gentlemen participating in the quarterly seminar, those defense industry profit-mongers, can breathe easy.

It is an old song, long since refuted by life and history. You can get nothing from the Soviet land by force -- one will understand this if one tries to take an unprejudiced view of the course of world events and of the correlation of forces.

In conclusion, one has to set such an authoritative opponent right on a specific matter: Who, after all, is to blame for the presence of entire flocks of missiles with nuclear warheads on European soil? Our country has never had imperial ambitions in Europe, it has never threatened neighbors, and it has never tried to steal a march on enemies in stockpiling and improving weapons. The Soviet Union's foreign policy actions are determined not by juvenile considerations: "If you do that, I'll do it too," but by the general peace-loving nature of our policy as a whole.

Reactions from all over the world to the Soviet proposal on concluding a separate agreement on the total elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe and sharp cuts in them on the territory of the USSR and the United States show that this initiative is seen as a real opportunity to impart momentum to the entire process of arms limitation and reduction. Does Congressman Aspin, who has often displayed considerable common sense in his approach to topical issues of the world situation, not see this?

Levin on Aspin Arms Remarks

LD172242 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] A report from Washington says that Aspin, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, who is viewed as being one of the major U.S. congressional specialists on defense policy, has spoken out against the elimination of all U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe. In his opinion, a certain number of these missiles -- carrying from 50 to 100 warheads -- must remain. Here is a latest news commentary with Viktor Levin at the microphone:

[Levin] The main thesis on which all Aspin's arguments are based is that Pershing-2's and cruise missiles have, so he says, a political significance rather than a military one. To a large extent, says Aspin, these are political missiles that are aimed at political targets in Western Europe. Such targets, in the congressman's words, are the ties of alliance between the United States and the West European states, and the missiles are supposed to reinforce these ties. The question of alliance links and mutual obligations in the NATO bloc is, of course, not simple.

It is known that there are political figures in Western Europe as well who consider it expedient not to completely dismantle medium-range missiles, but to limit reductions in them. These days there are few who are resolved to speak openly about this, for to speak from the same positions as those that Aspin defends means to speak out against the zero option. Though Aspin himself sees no difficulty in this, the zero option, he says, was a device -- I quote verbatim -- a device for affecting public opinion. Western Europe, it is thought, in frivolously rejecting what was for many years a trump card, would be acknowledging political shamelessness. But Aspin himself, I repeat, does not let this stop him. He evidently thinks that all means are alright in politics, both sophist's affectations that the missiles serve, as he says, not military but political aims, and the cynical acknowledgement that the discussions about the zero option were intended to deceive the public.

These are the means, but what is the aim? It clearly boils down to a striving to prevent humanity from achieving a nuclear-free world. It is, of course, impossible today to oppose the demands for cutting nuclear arms. Hardly anyone could allow themselves to reject the Soviet initiatives on the doorstep, as it is termed. While quietly piling up obstacles on the road to a nuclear-free world, by roundabout ways, rejection is considered to be possible in the West. This is why arguments on the political character of the U.S. nuclear missiles, which are aimed at ignorant people, are being put into circulation. But there are fewer and fewer ignorant people in our times, and people are understanding better and better what lurks behind the words of political figures. Do they want to rid humanity of the threat of nuclear annihilation or not? Aspin, as can be judged by his statements, has no wish for this.

INTERPRETATION OF ABM TREATY DISCUSSED

Gerasimov: Strict Adherence

LD171553 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1436 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, 17 Mar (TASS) -- The Soviet Union advocates that the USSR and the United States make a commitment not to back out of the ABM Treaty for 10 years while strictly observing its provisions, Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Department, said today.

At a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists he noted that it would be better if, instead of pushing for a "broad" interpretation of the ABM Treaty, contradicting the spirit and letter of it, the U.S. Administration would constructively react to the USSR proposal which envisages a clearly defined dividing line between permissible and nonpermissible work in the ABM field according to the treaty.

He said that U.S. Defense Secretary, Caspar Weinberger, recently signed a directive which discussed the task of conducting military actions beyond the limits of the earth's atmosphere. Primary significance is attached to the development and further improvement of antisatellite systems.

An antisatellite system based on the "F-15" fighter already exists in the United States. Last year Congress passed a moratorium on tests of this system on real targets in space. The Pentagon is trying to get the moratorium repealed and envisages increasing the limits on the heights at which space targets can be hit. Moreover, the Pentagon intends to begin developing [razrabotka] a new type of antisatellite system where lasers could be used as weapons.

To justify its actions, said G. Gerasimov, the Pentagon, as usual, is resorting to an old device claiming the existence of an alleged threat from the USSR to U.S. satellites. As far back as August 1983, the USSR stopped further work on a first-generation antisatellite system, developed [razrabotannoy] as far back as the seventies. No new work is currently being done in this field.

At the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear space weapons in Geneva the Soviet delegation put forward specific proposals on banning antisatellite systems along with the elimination of existing ones. The implementation of the measures we are proposing, emphasized the USSR Foreign Ministry representative, would make it possible to come to an agreement on banning the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of antisatellite arms, which would contribute to guaranteeing the operational safety of space devices in orbit.

Sofaer Letter to Nunn Noted

LD171430 Moscow TASS in English 1407 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Washington March 17 TASS -- TASS correspondent Andrey Fedyashin reports:

Abraham Sofaer, legal adviser to the U.S. State Department, who was asked by the White House to provide legal motivation for the administration to adopt a so-called "broad interpretation" of the 1972 Soviet-American ABM Treaty, has caused displeasure of high-ranking administration officials. The reason: A letter sent by Sofaer on March 9 this year to Senator Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services.

In this letter Sofaer admitted that various statements made in the process of ratification of the ABM Treaty and supporting the generally accepted strict interpretation of the treaty were not included in the secret memorandum prepared for Secretary of State George Shultz in 1985 and including the results of his "investigation into the history of conclusion of the ABM Treaty. Sofaer tried to justify this by the fact that the memorandum was compiled on the basis of the conclusions made by young and inexperienced lawyers from his state. It is precisely these conclusions that were presented to the Senate by the administration in 1985 as motivation for its "broad interpretation" of the treaty, an interpretation into which the White House is trying to fit implementation of its "Star Wars" programme.

It is this circumstance, undermining the administration's arguments in favour of the new interpretation of the treaty, that caused, according to THE WASHINGTON POST, irritation among White House and State Department officials.

Sofaer's letter and study of the materials he prepared has led Senator Nunn to draw the following conclusion, undesirable to the White House: The Nixon administration stated to the Senate in a most exhausting manner during the ratification of the ABM Treaty that it bans the development and testing of mobile systems and space-based anti-missile defence systems involving the use of "exotic" technology. The conclusion which does not suit the American warhawks.

PONOMAREV: ARMS RACE 'CRISIS OF CAPITALISM'

LD182237 Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- Academician Boris Ponomarev today described the arms race, including the nuclear race, which is whipped up by the United States and NATO, as expressing the general crisis of capitalism.

He was speaking here at an international conference of historians, philosophers, economists and political scientists from socialist, capitalist and developing countries.

The crisis of capitalism was among the principal issues discussed at the conference. Speakers said that the beginning of the crisis had been connected with the First World War and the triumphant socialist revolution in Russia in 1917 and that it had since been growing ever more acute.

The process, they said, was gaining momentum as militarism in many capitalist countries increasingly penetrated various spheres of human life, first of all the economy.

They said that the ruinous influence of militarization in the economies of leading capitalist countries had shown in the wars and regional conflicts of the past decades and that the United States had been the main acting force in military activities that had claimed millions of lives.

Speakers, including well-known Soviet scientists Boris Ponomarev, Pyotr Fedoseyev and Yevgeniy Primakov, all members of the USSR Academy of Sciences, also said that the security of states today could not be based on the military advantage of one side over another and that the peaceful co-existence of countries must be ensured by political means.

The conference will end tomorrow.

CEMA-EEC EXPERTS MEETING OPENS IN GENEVA

LD181601 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1509 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Geneva, 18 Mar (TASS) -- In accordance with the accords reached between CEMA and the EEC, the second round of talks between CEMA and EEC experts opened here today. The aim of this meeting is to agree on a text for a draft declaration on establishing relations between CEMA and the EEC. The CEMA experts' delegation is headed by Kurowski, deputy secretary of CEMA, and the EEC experts' delegation by Maslen, head of a department at the EC Commission.

WESTERN REACTION TO CPSU CC ADDRESS SURVEYED

LD162244 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Aleksandr Zholkver commentary]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee address has met with the broadest possible response not only in our country but far beyond it, I must say, and by no means only among our friends. The BBC, for example, is not at all delighted with the fact that, as it states, the interest in events in the USSR is not abating.

What are Western commentators drawing particular attention to? First and foremost, in the words of West German television, to the fact that the CPSU leadership has called on the Soviet people to continue the restructuring under way in the USSR. Another channel of the same television adds: The CPSU Central Committee address gives a positive assessment of the achievements of the USSR in the course of socialist construction since 1917. I should add that such a statement is manifestly not to the liking of many Western observers. They quote with pleasure our own criticism, our difficulties and shortcomings. But surely one cannot ignore the historical fact that in the course of socialist construction our country has turned into a mighty industrial power, that huge transformations in the sphere of culture have taken place in our country, and that the victory of the socialist revolution secured for the working man real rights and freedoms. This is all recalled in the CPSU Central Committee address and even those ill-disposed toward us have to talk about this.

Another important aspect of the Central Committee address is being noted by many observers in the West. It is the close link between our country's broad constructive plans and the consistent peace-loving course of its foreign policy. I would say that alongside the word restructuring [perestroyka] that many Western papers even transliterate from the Russian, mention is being made just as frequently now of the new political thinking, our country's new approach to international affairs. This concerns the large-scale initiatives of the USSR directed at throwing down nuclear arms on the threshold of the third millenium, and not allowing weapons into space. It is noteworthy tht now even such an eminent Western politician as FRG Minister of Foreign Affairs Genscher is stating that on the part of countries in the West it would be a mistake of historical proportions to miss this chance simply because the West cannot depart from the old thinking.

An example of such old thinking in particular was the latest radio address of the U.S. President, in which Washington's intentions to conduct talks with the USSR from a firm stance, the position of strength, were pushed once again. But surely it is clear that this is a hopeless policy. The CPSU Central Committee address stresses once again: We shall never under any circumstances permit the military superiority of imperialism. Socialism and peace are indivisible and the more powerful socialism is, the firmer is peace.

KORNILOV VIEWS USIA DIRECTOR WICK'S SKEPTICISM

LD181803 Moscow TASS in English 1728 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Fasten your belts: Mr. Charles Wick is swooping down on his audiences with another invented scary tale of a "Soviet threat" hanging over the "free West".

Where has the extra-vigilant U.S.I.A. director been able to discern the non-existent threat this time? Is it on the European plains, in Africa's wildness or in the Asian mountains?

Nope. He sees the "threat" in question in perestroyka (the drive for change currently under way in the Soviet Union), especially the policy of continued democratization and broader glasnost (public openness) in the USSR.

"They (Moscow) have captured the attention of people the world over," Wick complained with alarm in Washington in a report eloquently headlined "Glasnost: The Challenge to U.S. Public Diplomacy".

"The very soul of the Free World, its life today and its promise for security tomorrow", he asserted, were thus in jeopardy. Reading his remarks makes one wonder who they've been intended for.

The whole world knows that the perestroyka effort in the Soviet Union has the purely peaceful aim of quickening the country's social and economic development.

But at the U.S.I.A. they have long specialized in passing white off for black.

What is the objective of the Soviet initiative for eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe, for example? It would seem the answer is obvious: To deliver Europe from a most hazardous nuclear-missile burden, enhance security and strengthen trust.

This is according to logic, but not according to the U.S.I.A. director.

The proposal's objective, he said, was to "pressure free world governments". Wick resorted to still more amazing disinformation when speaking of domestic reforms in the USSR. Yes, he admitted, Moscow was demonstrating "a new image of openness to the world" but he personally, Wick implied, was not so naive as to buy it.

How should one interpret, he asked, the Soviet Union's greater willingness to form contacts with the West, including joint ventures?

Normal logic would interpret it as a policy seeking broader cooperation to mutual advantage and better mutual understanding.

Wick's explanation, however, was that the goal behind this policy was to make Western countries "act in a way favorable to Soviet interests".

How should one react to the disclosure by the Soviet press of the Chernobyl disaster and the collision of ships in the Black Sea?

Wick saw perfidy also there, claiming Moscow cared not so much about glasnost as "to have Soviet-informed world public opinion".

A good illustration of the absurdity one becomes capable of uttering if one looks at any event, even shipwrecks, through an anti-Soviet distorted glass.

Wick in this way asked quite a few tendentious, if not provocative, questions in his report -- and gave his own answers to all of them.

But he did not ask one question that really prompted itself. It was: Why did the U.S.I.A. director, sparing neither efforts nor dollars to portray the United States as "the mainstay of democracy" and "the bulwark of the free press", become so alarmed seeing a real strengthening of democracy and greater openness in the USSR?

The answer is plain: The changes taking place in the Soviet Union are taking the wind out of the sails of those in the United States, who need to have an "evil empire" in the world and who would like to continue painting the picture of a hibernating, backward and undemocratic Soviet Union, which has for years been standard fare in some foreign publications owing to the U.S.I.A.'s efforts.

In this sense, the changes taking place in the USSR are really a threat, and even a hard blow, to those Western experts on disinformation, who are still entertaining futile hopes to besmirch and discredit socialism with the help of falsehoods and lies.

NEW YORK ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSES U.S.-USSR TRADE

LD111023 Moscow TASS in English 1008 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] New York March 11 TASS -- Prospects for the development of diversified Soviet-American trade were in the focus of attention of the participants in a round-table meeting at the New York Athletic Club. Officials of different American corporations and research institutions and scientists took part in the meeting. Most of them did not conceal in frank exchanges of views their keen interest in the organization and broadening of business cooperation with the Soviet Union as it meets the interests of both the USSR and the U.S. and helps strengthen peace, promote understanding between the two nations and build trust in East-West relations as a whole.

ROGACHEV, PRC ENVOY EXCHANGE CONSULAR TREATY PAPERS

OW182319 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Rogachev and Chinese Ambassador to the Soviet Union Li Zewang exchanged documents on ratification of the consular treaty in Moscow on 18 March. The consular treaty between the two countries was signed on 10 September 1986.

ZHAO, LI CITED ON 'BOURGEOIS LIBERALIZATION'

PRAVDA on Zhao Speech

PM181657 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Against Bourgeois Liberalization"]

[Text] Beijing, 14 Mar -- According to XINHUA reports, Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and premier of the PRC State Council, speaking at the all-China conference of propaganda workers which has ended here, declared that enormous changes have occurred in the ideological and political sphere thanks to the efforts of the whole party in the course of the current struggle against "bourgeois liberalization" in China, and that the situation has started changing for the better in comparison with the period when the ideas of "bourgeois liberalism" were widespread. In the future, the Chinese leader said, it is necessary to strive to ensure that this struggle "is given a healthy development."

The struggle against "bourgeois liberalization," Zhao Ziyang noted, will be protracted and must be pursued resolutely, without halting halfway. In his words, "it is necessary to solve primarily questions of fundamental political principles and political orientation, without touching the political stipulations linked with the reform of the economic system and reforms in the countryside."

Zhao Ziyang also dwelt on matters to do with training workers in Marxist-Leninist theory and with stepping up ideological and political work as a whole.

Meeting today with a group of Chinese scientists who attended a working conference of the PRC Academy of Sciences, Zhao Ziyang again touched on the subject of the struggle against "bourgeois liberalization." He emphasized that this struggle "will not be waged at the price of rejecting the democratization of social life." "It is necessary to continue to build democracy in China under the Communist Party's leadership to ensure that the Chinese people enjoy broader democratic rights and to 'emancipate their awareness' within the socialist system's framework," the Chinese leader said.

TASS on Li Remarks

LD181056 Moscow TASS in English 1034 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Beijing March 18 TASS -- The Chinese People's Republic reaffirms its commitment to the policy of economic reform and wider ties with the outside world and continues to develop relations of cooperation and exchange with friendly states, Li Xiannian, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, the president of China, said here.

He emphasized that the current campaign against the bourgeois liberalization would not bring any changes in the Chinese policy. China persistently and consistently builds socialism with due regard for its specificities. However, certain people inside the party favour 'complete Westernization'. This underlines the need for the campaign against bourgeois liberalization which by no means will be expanded." [quotation marks as received]

According to RENMIN RIBAO a collection of documents of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, the National People's Assembly and speeches by Chinese leaders was prepared in Beijing. The collected documents explain the need for consistent adherence to the four principles underlying China's domestic and foreign policies, for fostering socialist culture, for combatting spiritual pollution, corrupting bourgeois and fuedal ideological influences and bourgeois liberalization, for overcoming the atmosphere of laxity and leniency and for waging a resolute ideological struggle against left-and right-wing deviations.

The newspaper pointed out that the collection would play an important role in implementing the main tasks facing the country at present -- namely in the campaign against bourgeois liberalization, in promoting the policy of reforms and expanded ties with the outside world, and in reviving the national economy.

FRIENDSHIP SOCIETIES HONOR WRITER DING LING

OW180825 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Many Soviet readers are familiar with the works of noted Chinese woman writer Ding Ling. Her novel "The Sun Shines on Mountaintops and on Rivers" won a Soviet National Prize in 1951. Soviet sinologist Adjimanudova made these remarks on Ding Ling's works at a soiree held in Moscow.

On 17 March, the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society cosponsored a soiree to mark the 80th birthday of the Chinese writer. Attending the soiree were Soviet sinologists, activists of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, respresentatives from various sectors in Moscow, and personnel of the Chinese Embassy.

TAIWAN-U.S. TIES UNCHANGED BY SHULTZ' PRC VISIT

OW190755 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Alekseyev commentary]

[Text] The Taiwan puppet regime's so-called foreign minister said in Taiwan that Taiwan's friendship with the United States remains unchanged, and that it will continue to maintain close ties with the United States. Commenting on this, station observer Alekseyev writes as follows:

It is perfectly reasonable to believe that the Kuomintang leadership has a greater faith in the United States now than in 1979 when it severed diplomatic ties with Taiwan and established formal relations with China. Washington has convinced people that the severance of formal diplomatic ties with Taiwan has not affected the overall situation. This is especially true in military affairs.

Currently Taiwan's Armed Forces are equipped with sufficient modern U.S.-made weapons that are technologically more advanced than the equipment the Chinese Armed Forces possess.

Arms supplied by the United States to Taiwan in 1986 totaled $800 million. Moreover, U.S. munition firms have continuously kept their branches in Taiwan busy by producing more sophisticated military technology. For example, Taiwan's troops have already obtained modern antiaircraft guided missiles manufactured by the branch of the U.S. General (?Dynamics) Company in Taiwan.

Thus, the Kuomintang chieftains have lost nothing whatsoever with the development of U.S.-Chinese relations. According to Taiwan's so-called foreign minister, U.S. State Secretary Shultz's visit to Beijing did not affect Taiwan's friendly relations with the United States. He is certainly correct. The visit has brought about closer ties between Washington and Taipei. During Shultz's visit, the Chinese leaders have clearly stated their dedication to the cause of socialism, which would surely displease the U.S. imperialists.

FORMER ENVOY TO U.S. CRITICIZES U.S. DEMOCRACY

PM171345 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Reminiscences of Former PRC Ambassador to the United States"]

[Text] Beijing, 11 Mar -- The Chinese magazine BAN YUE TAN has published an interview with Chai Zemin, the first PRC ambassador to the United States after the establishment of official Sino-American diplomatic relations, who held that post for 4 and 1/2 years, on the true essence of Western democracy. In conversation with the magazine's correspondent Chai Zemin declared:

"During my stay in the United States I saw the words 'democracy' and 'freedom' excite people. But, in the end, do the advertising of freedom and democracy and statements by certain administration leaders and high-ranking officials in this connection really mean the United States is a most democratic country? Is this really the situation?" While ambassador to the United States, he observed the Reagan and Carter election campaigns.

Chai Zemin points out that many people believe blindly in the capitalist electoral system, considering it democratic. But what he saw in the United States is, in fact, a competition of purses, for who could participate in an election campaign without having capital of several hundred thousands, several millions, or even tens of millions of dollars or the support of financial groups? You can only conduct election propaganda if you have money. Naturally, without money you will not become even a member of Congress, still less president.

Chai Zemin attests that certain U.S. presidents and congressmen were elected only because they had strong financial support. One minute of television time for election propaganda costs more than $10,000. These elections are based entirely on the dollar, all candidates represent the interests of particular financial groups, and candidates who come to power must serve the interests of those financial groups and speak in their name. Is there much democracy and freedom here?

The democratic system in capitalist countries is virtually a form of bourgeois dominion and serves the capitalist form of ownership, the former PRC ambassador to the United States emphasizes.

Chai Zemin also said that cases of vote-buying are frequently encountered in U.S. elections, and there are even assassinations. Since the United States was founded, several presidents have been assassinated in the country, but has even one instance of those assassinations been properly investigated?

During his work in the United States, the magazine correspondent points out, Chai Zemin visited more than 30 states and addressed the American populace approxiately 100 times. He has excellent knowledge of the American people and the American way of life.

Chai Zemin goes on to speak about the vaunted American freedom. "Outwardly," he points out, "it seems that the American mass media are free, and newspapers and magazines stagger people by constantly publishing debates and very sharp commentaries. In fact, however, everything is rigorously selected -- what to publish and what not to publish. The Communist Party of the United States, for example, is a legal party, but what American newspaper published materials on its activity? Materials calling for a change in the capitalist system are prohibited in the American press. The American press represents the interests of financial groupings."

Recently, the article states, American information circles followed closely the student demonstrations in China and wrote deatiled reports, some of them clearly inflammatory. But why, when people appear every day in front of the White House with posters protesting administration policy, does the American press ignore them or report this very sparingly. It is perfectly obvious that American press reports pursue a specific purpose.

The U.S. Administration pays no attention to criticism from public opinion and continues to act as it did previously. When addressing the population, U.S. congressmen, for example, protest against the improvement of nuclear weapons, against the arms race, and even against the "Star Wars" program. However, this has no effect on the administration, which continues to implement its plans. The Reagan administration cuts budget spending on social needs and education year after year -- which creates great indignation -- but this question is not resolved in any way, and newspapers write about this only in very general outline.

Chai Zemin also points out that "certain people believe that Western democracy allows everyone to act as he thinks fit. In fact, however, this is not so. There are frequent demonstrations in the United States, but these demonstrations are officially restricted. The demonstrators must inform the relevant police station in advance of the time, the route, the place, the number of demonstrators, and the purposes of the demonstration and obtain permission. The police observe the demonstration as it proceeds. Policemen walk on both sides of the column of demonstrators, keeping an eye on order. If some demonstrator steps outside the police line, violating public order or obstructing traffic, policemen at once use nightsticks or even arrest that person."

DPRK PARTY LEADER ENDS VISIT TO MOSCOW 18 MAR

LD181636 Moscow TASS in English 1614 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Hwang Chang-yop left Moscow today.

He arrived in the Soviet Union on March 14 at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

Hwang Chang-yop had meetings with members of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yegor Ligachev and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Vadim Medvedev. He presented a personal message from the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Kim Il-song to the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev.

Questions of further developing Soviet-Korean relations and international problems of mutual interest were discussed in the course of the conversations that passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

INTERVIEW WITH DPRK'S KIM YONG-NAM CITED

LD180952 Moscow TASS in English 0818 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Havana March 18 TASS -- The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is ready for military-political talks at summit level with South Korea on problems of the peaceful reunification in the Korean peninsula. This was stated by Kim Yong-nam, deputy premier of the Administrative Council and minister of foreign affairs of the DPRK, who is on a visit here.

Speaking in a PRENSA Latina interview he described the South Korean regime's refusal to conduct constructive talks with Pyongyang on a wide range of problems as a sign of its desire to avoid a solution of pressing issues and limit itself in the course of consultations only to the development of interparliamentary relations, the settlement of some border disputes and a small expansion of economic ties.

Kim Yong-nam qualified this position as an attempt to perpetuate the division of Korea. The key issues, he stressed, are reunification and a peaceful dialogue which would make it possible to decrease tension between the north and the south in the Korean peninsula.

MILITARY COMMENTATOR ON U.S. MOVES IN ASIA

SK170831 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Talk by station military commentator Senior Colonel (Eduard Assatorov)]

[Text] [Begin (Assatorov) recording in Russian fading into Korean translation] The eastern defense line of world socialism runs through Asia and the Pacific region and it runs the longest distance. The defense line begins at the extreme northernmost of the Soviet territory and runs through the Korean peninsula and along the coastline of the PRC and Indochina.

A network of U.S. forward military bases is in areas close to this defense line, with 32 bases located in Japan, 40 in South Korea, and tens of them in other Asian territories. Most of these bases are located in areas thousands of kilometers from the U.S. mainland and are in close quarters with such Asian countries as the Soviet Union, the PRC, the DPRK, and others.

Now, why are U.S. military bases in this region? They are there to guarantee the normal stationing of a large number of U.S. troops during peace time and to increase troops on a large scale during an emergency. That is to say, they are there to realize neoglobalism, a policy of military power, against countries in this region.

Asia and the Pacific region have not yet become as militaristic as Europe. Although the number of U.S. troops from all services, warships, and combat aircraft stationed in this region stand at 500,000, nearly 180, and more than 1,100 respectively, they still rank second to the number of the troops stationed in Europe.

However, history teaches us that the number of troops is not always the yardstick to measure the danger of provoking a war. During peace time, the number of U.S. troops stationed in Asia never exceeds that of NATO. Nevertheless, it was in Asia, in Korea and Indochina in particular, that the U.S. imperialists provoked the largest wars of aggression in the days that followed World War II.

More U.S. nuclear weapons are deployed in Europe than in Asia. However, U.S. atomic bombs turned such Asian cities as Hiroshima and Nagasaki into heaps of ashes. The first hydrogen bomb ever produced by mankind was also exploded in the Pacific and it was the Pacific that suffered more from the consequences of nuclear tests than any other place in the world.

During the 12 years after the first hydrogen bomb was exploded in Micronesia the United States test atomic and hydrogen bombs 66 times. The United States planned to use nuclear weapons during the Korean war.

In the mid-1960's, the first type of general U.S. satellite-interceptor systems were developed on Johnston Island and Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific. Today, projects concerning the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative are underway in the Kwajalein Atoll and this island is now being turned into a test site for the U.S. Star Wars program.

In addition to a large-scale increase in troops stationed in this region, the United States is now attempting to fabricate a new military and political oganization in the Far East, something equivalent to NATO. The dangerous configuration of that organization has already been brought into our visual range. A tripartite alliance is being fabricated based on Washington's bilateral agreements with Tokyo and Seoul. The process of pooling the military potential of the United States, Japan, and South Korea is now being perfected.

An attempt to lead Asia down a path on which Asia will have to shoulder the burden of a military community linked to blocs formed by the imperialist major powers has not stopped.

Let us cite examples of military policy by aggressive forces in Asia. The area covered by the U.S. 3d Fleet, which has hitherto been assigned to defend the Pacific coastline of the U.S. mainland, has now been expanded as far as the shore of the Soviet Union.

Dangerous mobile military exercises dovetail into each other.

U.S. military exercises are being conducted in the inner sea of the Soviet Union's Okhotsk, U.S.-Japanese mobile exercises in the Sea of Japan close to the coastline of the Soviet Union and the DPRK, and the "Team Spirit" mobile exercise in the southern half of the Korean peninsula.

Also, a U.S.-Australian mobile exercise is being conducted in the western coastal areas of Australia. A large-scale U.S.-Thai mobile exercise condenamed "Cobra" is being conducted in Thai territory and Siamese waters. F-16 fighter-bombers are being moved to this mobile exercise from South Korea. "Rimpac," a mobile exercise by the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia is being conducted in Pacific waters.

U.S. Marines and Japanese soldiers scheduled to participate in the war game are being ferried to the Philippines. There are countless examples to show that Asia is a region thick with the danger of explosion of our planet.

The U.S. imperialists are responsible for the tense situation in this region. The U.S. imperialists still consider Asia to be their fiefdom. Social circles in Asia are now waking up to the reality that unless a reliable wall is built to stop the spreading proliferation of nuclear weapons, it will be impossible to preserve peace in the region.

The Soviet Union and the PRC have already pledged that they would not be the first to use nuclear weapons and are against the militarization of space.

The DPRK has proposed to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone. The Korean peninsula, where the armed forces of the United States and the South Korean regime stand face to face with the DPRK in dangerous confrontation, needs a guarantee for peace more than anywhere else.

However, the DPRK's proposal to relax military tension faces stubborn opposition from the United States and the Seoul side. In response to the DPRK's announcement to not conduct large-scale mobile exercises in its own territory, South Korea staged the annual mobile military exercise condenamed "Team Spirit."

Pyongyang's proposals, including one that called for talks between military leaders, have received no response. As long as U.S. troops are stationed in Asia and its troops are built up, it will be impossible to ensure peace in this region.

As long as the United States uses its military power to delay the progress of the historic course and hinder the people's autonomy in choosing their own future, it will be impossible to preserve peace there.

For this, the people in Asia should pool their strength with a view toward laying a foundation for all-Asia security and cooperation.

NAJIBULLAH SAYS RECONCILIATION POLICY GROWING

PM021457 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb Second Edition p 4

[Unattributed article headlined "At a rally in Kabul"]

[Text] Kabul February 25 TASS -- The policy of national reconciliation proclaimed by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is gaining in scope, a mass meeting in Jalalabad on Tuesday was told by the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Najib.

In the time since the announcement of this policy 34 armed formations numbering some 9,000 men have gone over to the side of the government, he said. More than 5,000 people have been released from prisons in accordance with the decree on amnesty.

The return of refugees is the most vivid positive characteristic of national reconciliation, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee states. So far more than 22,000 people have returned to the country and their number is growing further despite such obstacles as fines, beatings and threats.

We know the conditions in which refugees live in Pakistani and Iranian camps, thousands of witnesses have told their story, Comrade Najib went on. And the worst thing is that these countries, while failing to create human conditions for the Afghans, are at the same time preventing those who wish, of their own free will, to return home from doing so.

So, he said, the authorities prevented 800 families from Zabol (Iran), and 600 families from the (Naser-Bag) camp and 180 families from the (Savabi) camp (Pakistan) from returning home. On 12 February 65 families of the Ibrahim Kheyl tribe returning home met with a 150-strong gang. As a result of the clash 23 people were killed and the others were marched back to the camp under guard.

International imperialism headed by the United States strives in accordance with its strategic aims in the region to perpetuate tension around the DRA and impart a permanent nature to the fratricidal war, the Afghan leader said. According to the Western press in the period from 1979 to 1986 the United States provided the counter-revolution with $1,150 million to purchase arms.

Let me remind you that between 1956 and 1972 the United States gave $331.5 million of development aid to Afghanistan, while at present Washington is giving $220-260 million annually to the counterrevolution for war, killing, and bloodshed. Such is the true face of imperialism!

Najib noted that the enemies of the Afghan people are using the refugees for their selfish aims. Extremists have recruited and continue recruiting from among them murderers and spies who are infiltrated into the DRA after thorough military training. The ruling circles in Islamabad are capitalizing on the sorrow of people. The Pakistani Government contends that it spends every day 1.5 million dollars on the needs of Afghan refugees, but in reality it keeps the greater part of the money it gets.

We are inviting refugees to return home in conditions of national reconiliation, the Afghan leader said. Our people who have suffered so much have made their choice once and for all. We are against a continuation of the war, bloodshed, and destruction.

Talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan resume in Geneva on 25 February, Najib went on. Earlier at these talks we have more than once raised the question of refugees. Some accords have been reached on this problem. We hope that the final agreement will make easier their return. As to us, we will create all the necessary conditions for their participation in the political, social and cultural life. They will have equal rights with other citizens of Afghanistan. Already in the coming days a number of former refugees will be elected to the Revolutionary Council and local state bodies. Patriotically minded former emigrees will be offered posts of responsibility in executive organs. It has been decided to include their representatives in the Extraordinary Commissions on Reconciliation, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee said in conclusion.

Former refugees attending the rally adopted an appeal to their compatriots living abroad. They called on them to return to the DRA and to actively join in the process of building a flourishing Afghanistan. Having returned home, we see that the course of national reconcilation is being implemented more and more confidently and peace and tranquillity in our country are strengthening. We see that this humane course is meeting with increasing support from progressive and peace-loving forces both inside the country and abroad, the document says. Participants in the rally sent separate appeals to their compatriots in Iran and in Pakistan.

Proclaiming the policy of national reconciliation, the PDPA and the DRA government have taken a big step from war to peace, a message from former refugees to the UN Secretary General says. We ask you to use your influence and prestige to persuade the governments of Pakistan and Iran to remove the obstacles preventing our compatriots from returning to Afghanistan.

GROUP SURRENDERS AFTER 7-YEAR FIGHT IN DRA

LD162229 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 16 Mar 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; M. Leshchinskiy video report]

[Text] More and more armed detachments of Afghan counterrevolutionaries are going over to the side of the people's power.

[Leshchinskiy] Today we were invited to the quarters of the special operations regiment of the DRA Ministry of State Security. To the question "what event is expected?," they replied simply "Come and see." And we saw. We saw something that as little as 2 months ago would have been simply out of the question: on to the regiment's ground marched, unhindered and voluntarily, an armed formation that had spent 7 years fighting in the province of Kapisa against the people's power.

To be quite honest, one does not always feel too comfortable here when one has armed people like these behind one's back. For quite literally just a week ago those arms were directed against the people's power, against the Army of Afghanistan. But this is an indication of how reality here is changing literally by the day. Day by day the policy of national reconciliation is winning greater authority. Yet even so the road to peace remains a very tough and long one. Now I want to ask these people how they decided to come over to the side of the people's power and what they have had to come through to reach this day.

[Video shows a group speaking in vernacular, followed by Leshchinskiy's translation] The central authorities had proposed a halt to the bloodshed.

From leaflets we learned that we would be pardoned and that we would be allowed to keep our weapons in order to defend ourselves against our former masters, who are continuing the fratricidal war. They threaten us with execution, fines and the annihilation of our families. They were firing at our backs when we were coming here. But we are placing our hope in the strength of the people which we are now on the side of. [video shows military building built into low hill slopes, line of military trucks nearby; uniformed Afghans and some in civilian clothes]

PAPER NOTES STINGER SHIPMENT 'THWARTS DRA HARMONY'

PM181421 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Mar 87 First Edition p 3

[Correspondent Major A. Oliynik "Military-Political Commentary": "Gamble on Stingers"]

[Text] Kabul, 16 Mar -- The Reagan administration recently adopted a decision to send a further 300 portable Stinger antiaircraft missile complexes for counterrevolutionary forces in Afghanistan. This was stated by an official U.S. Defense Department spokesman. Commenting on his statement, BAKHTAR emphasizes that the delivery of a new batch of American antiaircraft missiles marks a new stage in Washington's interference in Afghanistan's affairs and a new step in implementing the notorious doctrine of "neoglobalism."

It is significant that all this is taking place at a time when the military truce declared by the revolutionary government has been in effect in Afghanistan for over 2 months. When vigorous steps are being taken to normalize the situation in the republic by political means and when a search is on for paths to national concord.

The PDPA policy of ending the bloody war and establishing peace and tranquillity in the country is arousing ever greater U.S. opposition. The State Department, the Defense Department, the CIA, and other departments are involved in carrying out subversive actions against the DRA. Their activities are coordinated and directed by a specially created group headed by M. Armacost, under secretary of state for political affairs. In all, there are approximately 20 various committees, federations, and foundations in Washington and New York engaged in collecting funds for the Afghan counterrevolution, organizing propaganda shows in support of it, and also spreading misinformation about the national reconciliation process in Afghanistan. Major U.S. scientific research centers -- the "Heritage Foundation," for example -- are also involved in elaborating the Reagan administration's political course with regard to Afghanistan. It is precisely according to that organization's data that the Afghan problem is now being advanced to the leading place among all the regional conflicts which the United States is interested in preserving.

To this end Washington is increasing the number of its advisers directly employed in training Afghan counterrevolutionaries in 120 training centers on Pakistani territory. American mercenaries train dushmans in acts of sabotage and terrorism and in methods of using various types of arms, including Stinger antiaircraft missiles. According to Western mass media reports, the number of American instructors in training centers and points has already topped 300. Leaders of counterrevolutionary troops who have sided with the government have declared that American advisers and experts are in the regions of the Pakistani cities of Paracninar, Quetta, Peshawar, and Warsak. In addition to teaching a bloody trade, the American instructors, the overwhelming majority of whom are CIA cadre workers, also select people to undergo special training on U.S. territory, at military bases in Texas and California.

One of the last batches of rebels, numbering 100 people, was sent across the ocean at the end of 1986.

...While showing verbal concern for a "political settlement of the situation" in Afghanistan, the Reagan administration in fact is continuing to seek to keep the situation inflamed in connection with Afghanistan's problems. Feverish efforts are being made in the United States to wreck the current national reconciliation process in Afghanistan.

INDIAN, ROMANIAN PRESIDENTS CITED ON ARMS CURBS

PM131055 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Arrival in India"]

[Text] Delhi, 11 Mar -- The cause of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, must not be postponed for a single hour, Indian President Zail Singh stated at a banquet in honor of Romanian President N. Ceausescu, president of the Romanian State Council, and secretary general of the RCP, who is on an official visit here. The president noted that more and more statesmen and broad sections of the world's population have a growing realization of the danger of a nuclear catastrophe. Zail Singh stressed that India is proud of its participation in the peace initiatives of the "Delhi Six" and in drawing up and promoting the Delhi Declaration on the principles of a nonviolent world free of nuclear weapons.

In his reply speech N. Ceausescu stated the Romanian Government's support for the Soviet proposal on concluding an agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe. We, the Romanian leader said, expect a positive response from the United States so as to ensure that agreement on this issue is the first step toward the abolition of all nuclear weapons on the continent and the subsequent total elimination of nuclear arsenals.

N. Ceausescu yesterday had talks with Indian President Zail Singh, the country's Vice President R. Venkataraman, and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The two countries' leaders advocated ending the nuclear arms race and preventing its transfer to space, Indian news agencies report.

SUPREME SOVIET, NEPALESE KING EXCHANGE CABLES

PM181415 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet presidium has sent King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal a telegram in which it has conveyed congratulations and best wishes to the king and the Nepalese people on the occasion of the country's national holiday.

In a reply telegram King Birendra expressed gratitude for the congratulations and good wishes.

ANNIVERSARY OF U.S.-PHILIPPINES AGREEMENT NOTED

LD141218 Moscow TASS in English 1109 GMT 14 Mar 87

[Text] Manila March 14 TASS -- By TASS Correspondent Sergey Almazov: There are anniversaries that people do not like to recall. Among them is, perhaps, the 40th anniversary of the U.S.-Philippine agreement, which was forced by the United States on its former colony. Under the agreement the Pentagon placed there more than twenty of its military bases. Many Filipinos are sure that the country's national sovereignty and territorial integrity are crudely violated on the basis of the agreement signed on March 14, 1947.

The U.S. military facilities are permanently expanded and modernized. The Clark Field air base is the Pentagon's biggest outpost in Asia. Its rebuilt runways can be used by the latest types of U.S. nuclear capable aircraft. It was reported in the local press, that the stocks of aircraft fuel accumulated in Clark Field are larger than those in the tanks of the New York civilian airport, one of the world's largest. The Subic Bay naval base with a contingent of 8,000 servicemen is the centre for logistic support and repairs of ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet. The docks of Subic Bay are adapted for servicing attack aircraft carriers and nuclear-powered submarines.

The U.S. military presence is a permanent tangible factor in the Philippines. It involves not only permanent military exercises and practice shooting, as a result of which window panes are broken in close-lying houses, and shells fired "by mistake" sometimes explode in densely populated areas. The U.S. military bases are in addition breeding grounds of banditism, drug addiction and other social scourges. Apart from that the Philippine Health Ministry said, expressing concern over the propagation of Aids in that country, that the dangerous virus is spread by servicemen from the U.S. bases.

A mass movement led by the coalition against bases incorporating more than 100 organizations and groups, which consistently campaign for the immediate dismantling of the Pentagon nests, is gaining in scope in the Philippines. The groups and organizations call demonstrations and rallies of protest, take an active part in international peace conferences.

Yet there are also forces in the Philippines trying to preserve military presence there. They are chiefly right-wingers who continue whipping up the "Soviet menace" myth. Some of them were among the special commission, which drafted the Constitution of the Philippines and were trying to have their say in resolving the country's future.

Yet the voice of reason has prevailed and a paragraph stipulating that the Philippines pursues a non-nuclear policy and leaving to the discretion of congress the question of resuming the bases agreement with the United States due to expire in 1991 has been incorporated into the new draft law. The progressive public of the Philippines believes that this provision of the constitution will be implemented and the country will, for the first time after the proclamation of independence, become a truly independent nation free from foreign military presence.

PHILIPPINES AGAINST 'PLANS' TO EXPAND CIA ROLE

LD181001 Moscow TASS in English 0934 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Manila March 18 TASS -- The governmental and political circles of the Philippines have firmly denounced the evidence cited a few days ago by the U.S. NEWSWEEK that President Ronald Reagan gave special instructions to the U.S. CIA top officials to broaden the proportions of secret operations against the insurgent movement in the Philippines and to increase the staff of secret services in that country.

President of the Philippines Corazon Aquino categorically turned down yesterday the report which was in NEWSWEEK's materials yesterday, that the Reagan administration's plans to broaden CIA activities in the Philippines had allegedly been agreed upon with the Philippine leaders.

Chief of General Staff of the Philippine Armed Forces General Fidel Ramos also made a statement saying that solution of the problem of insurgents in the country was exclusively the prerogative of the Philippine Administration.

The White House's decision on a rise in the staff of the American espionage agency in the Philippines has been qualified here as growing U.S interference into its internal affairs. The adventurist plans have given rise to concern even in circles of the Philippines bourgeois opposition.

Candidates for the Senate at the coming May elections to Congress from the right-wing bourgeois bloc Vicente Puat and Nilo Tayag described the actions of the White House as imperiling the national sovereignty of the Philippines.

PENTAGON CRITICISM OF AQUINO GOVERNMENT REPORTED

LD181407 Moscow TASS in English 1330 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] New York March 18 TASS -- Richard Armitage, U.S. assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, has sharply criticised the Philippine Government's approach to solving the problem of rebellion in the country because it clearly does not suit Washington.

Speaking at the subcommittee on asian and pacific affairs of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, the ASSOCIATED PRESS reports today, he accused the Aquino administration of lacking a general plan of suppressing communist rebels. Richard Armitage did not conceal that the growth of the rebel movement in the Philippines causes mounting concern in Washington because the biggest American overseas bases are located in that country -- the naval base at Subic Bay and the air base at Clark field.

In the opinion of the ASSOCIATED PRESS, this high-placed Pentagon official made the sharpest U.S. public attack on the Philippine leadership in the year since the Aquino Administration came into office.

CHILDRESS VISIT VIEWED AS PROOF OF U.S. MEDDLING

LD171723 Moscow TASS in English 1707 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Manila March 17 TASS -- The visit to the Philippines by Richard Childress, a White House adviser on national security issues in the East-Asian region, has become new proof of the United States' interference in the political process inside the Philippines.

Upon arrival here on a familiarization mission, Childress in a talk with Salvador Laurel, vice president of the Philippines, expressed the Reagan administration's serious "concern" over a mounting "communist threat" in the Philippines. He made attempts to put direct pressure on the Philippine government and provoke it into taking a tougher line towards the rebel movement in the country.

The open White House pressure on the Corazon Aquino administration sparks off protests in the Philippines' political circles. Speaking to the local public on March 16, Raul Manglapus, leader of the Christian Social-Democratic Party of the Philippines, who runs for the Senate from the ruling coalition at the elections to the congress this May, urged the government for vigilance in the face of U.S. imperialism's intrigues.

To suit its military-strategic plans in the Philippines which has large Pentagon bases in its territory, Washington prods the Aquino government towards toughening the struggle against the rebel forces. The move is frought with a civil war breaking out in the country, Manglapus said.

GROWTH OF TRADE, ECONOMIC TIES WITH MANILA NOTED

LD190002 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 18 Mar 87

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Konstantin Patsyuk]

[Text] The trade and economic relations that have grown between our country and the Philippines have proved themselves well. They have become one of the important fields of bilateral cooperation. Here is what our correspondent in the countries of Southeast Asia, Aleksandr Redchenko, has reported in connection with this:

[Begin recording] [Redchenko] When conversation turns to economic cooperation, they start talking about the work of the Soviet-Philippine shipping company. Its setting up was an effective stimulus for the development of mutual trade. Regular purchases of such traditional Philippine exports as coconut oil, copra, copper concentrate, nickel, and Manila hemp allow the Philippines to develop their production on a stable basis for the Soviet Union to obtain necessary raw materials. In its turn, our country supplies to the Philippines machine tools, electrical engineering and mining equipment, engines and road-building equipment. Here is what vice-chairman of the (Philsov) company, (Alex Tamvango), says:

The (Philsov) shipping company, says (Alex Tamvango), was created in 1974, that is 2 years before diplomatic relations were established with your country. We are proud of the fact that during the 12 years of its existence it has cooperated well in the field of shipping. The possibility of using Soviet line ships and freighters which call in the Philippines could give us additional tonnage for shipping Philippine export and import goods. [end recording]

MOSCOW TV REPORTS ON CPSU DELEGATION IN SRV

LD190456 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 18 Mar 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video report by correspondent L. Krichevskiy in Hanoi on visit to SRV by CPSU delegation led by CPSU central committee secretary Aleksandra Biryukova]

[Text] The Sixth Vietnamese Communist Party Congress outlined a program for important transformations in the country, a program for renewing all areas of life. Now much work is under way, a search for optimum solutions to complex economic and social problems.

For several years now Hanoi garment works No 10 has been specializing in production of men's shirts for Hungary, the GDR, and other countries. The CPSU delegation, headed by Comrade Biryukova, was warmly welcomed at the garment works. She acquainted herself in detail with production and the range and quality of the output produced here. Recently the works successfully filled its first order for the Soviet Union. There was a friendly conversation in the management of the works between the CPSU delegation and senior officials of the Vietnamese Communist Party and leaders of the Vietnamese Ministry of Light Industry. Specific problems were discussed. Aleksandra Pavlovna Biryukova noted the exceptional importance of developing cooperation between the Soviet Union and Vietnam in the field of light industry. A specific program is now being worked out for this cooperation up to 2000. It makes provision for both broad production cooperation and the creation of joint enterprises. In all, Comrade Biryukova stressed, there is the widest possible field for mutually beneficial activities and for the strengthening of economic cooperation between our countries.,

SRV'S NGUYEN VAN LINH GREETS CAMBODIAN DELEGATION

LD181303 Moscow TASS in English 1215 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi March 18 TASS -- "The Communist Party of Vietnam, the Vietnamese Government and people have always rendered and will continue to render all-round assistance and support to the fraternal Kampuchean people in its effort to build a new Kampuchea and defend the gains of the revolution," said Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV).

He received a delegation of Phnom Penh City led by Nguon Nhel, an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea (PRPK), secretary of the Phnom Penh Party Committee.

The Vietnamese leader emphasized that the achievements made by the working people of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in the social and economic development of the country testified to the correctness of the PRPK's revolutionary course toward rehabilitation and the building of foundations of socialism. "Despite hostile actions of imperialist and international reactionary forces, the Kampuchean people is successfully working to fulfill the tasks set forth by the 5th PRPK Congress," Nguyen Van Linh said.

The general secretary of the CPV Central Committee spoke with appreciation of the existing relations of friendship, unity and allround cooperation between the peoples of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

"A good example of these relations," Nguyen Van Linh said, "are close ties between the residents of Hanoi and Phnom Penh, the capitals of the two fraternal countries of Indochina."

"Revolutionary victories of the Vietnamese people are inseparable from our victories," the head of the Phnom Penh delegation said. Nguon Nhel expressed the determination of the residents of Kampuchea's capital and the entire Kampuchean people to strengthen friendship and solidarity with the people of Vietnam.

LAO PARTY WORKERS RECEIVED BY RAZUMOVSKIY

PM121616 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty ties between the CPS and the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] a delegation of LPRP party workers headed by (O Sai-gnasan), member of the LPRP Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Party and State Control Committee under the LPRP Central Committee and the Lao Council of Ministers, was in the Soviet Union 26 February through 9 March.

The Lao comrades familiarized themselves with the work experience of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee and the party commissions of local party organs, the USSR People's Control Committee, and local people's control organs, and visited Minsk and Ulyanovsk.

The delegation was received by G.P. Razumovskiy, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. T. Khaikhamphithoun, Lao ambassador to the USSR, took part in the warm, friendly talk.

USSR PEACE AIM CITED IN PRC'S WU TALKS IN BULGARIA

Meeting With Mladenov

OW160424 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1200 GMT 15 Mar 87

[Text] Bulgarian Foreign Minister Mladenov and Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian pointed out that the Soviet proposal to eliminate Soviet and U.S. intermediate-range missiles from Europe is of great significance for peace and security in the world.

They pointed this out during their talks in Sofia, where the Chinese foreign minister was making an official visit.

Meeting With Zhivkov

PM181235 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Reception in Sofia"]

[Text] Sofia, 17 Mar -- T. Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, has received Wu Xueqian, member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo, member of the State Council, and foreign minister of the PRC, who has been here on an official visit. The BTA agency reports that during the conversation it was emphasized that in the present international situation there is no task more important than the conservation of peace on earth.

The Bulgarian leader noted that it was concern for the elimination of the danger of a nuclear catastrophe which dictated the efforts and actions of the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries.

T. Zhivkov stated the readiness of the BCP and the Bulgarian state to cooperate with the PRC in the struggle for the reduction of international tension and peaceful coexistence.

POLISH SEJM SUPPORTS PROPOSAL ON EUROMISSILES

LD190047 Moscow TASS in English 2151 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Warsaw March 18 TASS -- The Sejm of the Polish People's Republic has met with special interest and support the proposal of the Soviet Union on the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe, which creates in this continent a situation promoting a new apprach of European countries to the overcoming of existing barriers.

Poland will actively support the Soviet proposal. This has been pointed out in a resolution adopted today by a session of the Sejm that deals with the foreign policy of Poland. The Sejm recognizes and fully supports the Soviet proposals aimed at ridding the earth of nuclear weapons by the end of the current century.

CSSR EXPERTS COUNTER WESTERN PROPAGANDA

PM161612 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[Special correspondent L. Chausov report under the rubric "From the Ideological Front": "Truth Versus Fabrications" -- passages within slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] Prague -- Hearing the hum of a helicopter above the ancient towers on a Friday evening, the people of Prague probably do not even bother to look up: It is a common occurrence. At the end of the working week, when thousands of cars hurry out of town to the dachas, the rotorcrafts help to control traffic in the capital, which is oversaturated with vehicles. From above you can instantly see where the "jam" is and where to send the mobile patrol from the public security service -- "veresna bezpecnost."

Convenient for both drivers and pedestrians, isn't it? True enough. But look how this is represented by Western propaganda. One subversive radio station interpreted the useful innovation in a simply staggering way. It seems that this is an enforced measure. Apparently the people of Prague leave the city on their free days not in order to relax in the bosom of nature. It is, so they say, a spontaneous protest against the social system and the authorities, a demonstration of an "apolitical" approach, of "hostility to socialism," and so forth. The Western interpreters even go so far as to say that the people of Prague supposedly want to "hide from the unslumbering eye of the party functionaries" who impose their will on people.

This odious example was quoted to me at the start of a talk in the city political school in Prague. Taking part were: Helena Bulvasova, chief of the school's Marxist-Leninist philosophy department, and the school's director (Rudolf Rayner); Vaclav Kupec, CPCZ Central Committee worker; his colleague Jiri Taborskiy; and CPCZ Central Committee lecturer Viktor Borsky.

I came here, to the well-cared-for ancient building in the working class district of Zizkov, because of my desire to find out how people in the CSSR, in the very heart of Europe where many ways meet, assess the pressure from Western propaganda and what experience they have in counterpropaganda. After all, Czechoslovakia has long been a special target for ideological subversion, a "tasty morsel" for the opponents of detente and the radio provocateurs.

/Fact from the files: Radio Free Europe attacks the CSSR population 20.5 hours a day. The Voice of America and the BBC broadcast for 3 hours each. And the mouthpieces of bourgeois propaganda operate on various wave bands, in order literally to fill the air waves with their materials and impose their viewpoint./

It has been observed that Western propagandists have a readymade collection of topics. A major place is assigned to the falsification of history.

Indeed, V. Kupec continued, our ideological opponent treats historical realities with gay abandon, seeking to prove what cannot be proved. Socialism, he says, was "imposed" on our country from outside; the enemy is ready for anything as long as he can misrepresent very well known things. Or else he acts as if the revolutionary events in Czechoslovakia's recent history did not exist. For instance, he deliberately "forgets" about February 1948 -- the Czechoslovak working people's victory over the bourgeois.

Wishing to rewrite history, the Western press gambles -- and this is no accident -- on all kinds of antisocialist emigrees and political adventurists of every kind -- from the "anti-February" bankrupts to dissident loners. Characteristically, in Deutsche Welle broadcasts, for instance, publicity for such individuals is combined with concealed publicity for revanchism. And they blacken in every way the USSR's diplomatic steps before World War II, and use the caustic acid of lies to "wash clean" the uniforms of Western powers' diplomats, stained with the shame of the Munich betrayal.

/Fact from the files: The notorious Radio Free Europe is noted for its unbridled tone when dealing with Czechoslovakia, it has repeatedly given the microphone to the ringleaders of West German revanchist unions. Not for the first time, they lament the fate of the Sudeten Germans. But here is something noteworthy: All these "yesterday's men" are now speaking out, sometimes on the air, to make unfounded claims to CSSR territory./

It is symptomatic that bourgeois ideologists, trying to modify history, aim at the young. And above all at students, G. Bulvasova says, joining the conversation. Western propagandists hope that young people not yet experienced in the class struggle will not be able to distinguish truth from falsehood. Perhaps they will be caught in the nets cast by the bourgeois fishers of men. The attempt to impose manifestations of religious extremism on young people in the CSSR is probably from the same "arsenal." The objective is perfidious: to act in such a way that, caught up on vague expatiations on the meaning of life, they plunge into fruitless self-examination, morbid introspection, and social apathy. In this connection one must mention the elements of cosmopolitanism and pacifism, also insinuated gradually into young people's consciousness.

/Topical quotation: "Antisocialist programs are recorded on tapes and videocassettes and smuggled into Czechoslovakia." (THE WEEKLY TRIBUNA, CSSR.)/

What are the channels through which the West tries to send in ideological contraband? V. Borsky notes. They are varied. Mainly, of course, the air waves. Bourgeois propagandists consider that there are no borders for them: The radio is allotted the role of heavy artillery in the ideological aggression. Another channel is the illegal importation of antisocialist subversive literature into the CSSR. To this end they shamelessly use both ordinary contacts between people and international tourism.

Technical innovations are increasingly frequently used for unseemly purposes. Take video, for instance. By sending in cassettes of quite specific content, the Western "missionaries" would like to convert to their faith as many people as possible, especially young people. And if the expression "paper will accept anything" is true, the enemy seems to have set the goal of demonstrating that videotape will accept even more. The unrestrained cult of violence, pornography, blood-curdling terrifying horror movies -- anything goes, in the attempt to capture the viewers' imagination, bring about a shift in people's awareness, and gradually accustom them to thinking according to the concepts of an alien social system.

The times are changing -- and bourgeois propaganda's "angle of attack" is also changing. Thus Radio Free Europe recently began broadcasts especially for the workers, generously allotting several hours a day in their programs. Not witout purpose! Obviously the enemy would like to foster groups of "informal leaders" among the working class audience today -- individuals after the manner of the Pole Walesa.

We are seeing the methods of a "differentiated approach" to the intended audience: young people, workers...

Another source, (R. Rayner) says, developing this idea, is Western television. Its broadcasts cover a considerable part of the republic's territory. Television programs from the FRG or Austria can be received by a certain percentage of the CSSR population (if only by virtue of geographical proximity). This introduces into the public consciousness values which are by no means relevant to our system.... On the contrary, the indoctrination of unstable souls, the danger of which must be taken into account, takes place surreptitiously over the air.

/Topical quotation: "New, more powerful stations are being built all the time, a project for direct television broadcasting via satellite is being gradually implemented, the signals from which should cover our entire territory, and it is planned to transmit broadcasts in the Czech and Slovak languages, too." (THE WEEKLY TRIBUNA, CSSR)/

While exposing the perfidiousness of selective, targeted influence on the audience's emotions, let us not forget also the content of the subversive broadcasts, J. Taborsky says to his colleagues. Indeed, it is only necessary to compare the content previously and now. You at once perceive the shift in emphasis to foreign policy propaganda. In other words, our ideological opponents have developed a kind of reflex: Having suffered fiascos in the main avenues of foreign policy, they would like to take propagandist revenge at the expense of small-scale, one-time actions, fanning imaginary "sensations," accusing other people of their own sins, and making wrongful accusations against the socialist community countries.

Claims to dictate a style of behavior in the international arena to sovereign states are as absurd as they are arrogant. But that is the "principle" of behavior for bourgeois propagandists. Of course, inevitable failure awaits the ideological saboteurs. But a proportion of naive people might be led astray in the meantime.

In order to successfully resist all onslaughts by Western propaganda, vigilance and implacability are needed. All my interlocutors came to this conclusion during the discussion. Rebuffing imperialism's sophisticated actions in good time -- that is the mission of journalists, propagandists, and agitators. In a word, all whom the CPCZ has entrusted with carrying the party's truth to the masses.

Vigilance, self-confidence, assertiveness.... It is simply essential for people in the ideological front line to develop these fighting qualities. Then they will be able to help their compatriots more effectively to discern where the truth is. That was a summary of the conversation.

When the discussion ended and we emerged from the political school, we all looked skyward at once. A helicopter was again whirring over Prague, with its hundred towers.

It was Friday. The working day was over, and the people of Prague were setting off their dachas, closer to nature. Cars crowded the crossroads, squares, and narrow medieval streets. The airmen were helping the traffic controllers....

U.S. ATTEMPTING 'NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL' IN TURKEY

LD181530 Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- TASS commentator Valeriy Vavilov writes:

U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has arrived in Turkey and opened talks with his Turkish counterpart Zaki Yavuzturk on broader military cooperation between the two countries.

The United States has been showing heightened interest in Turkey, which is its ally in the North Atlantic Alliance, seeing it as the main strike force on NATO's south eastern flank.

Over the decades of bilateral military cooperation the Pentagon has been able to establish itself firmly on Turkish soil where five major military bases and a multitude of other military facilities have been made available to the U.S. Armed Forces.

The United States has also deployed nuclear weapons and delivery vehicles, including missiles, artillery systems and nuclear-capable planes, in Turkey.

The main air base in Incirlik is being enlarged. Building work is proceeding at full tilt on "joint bases" in Mus and Batman near the border with the Soviet Union. Measures are being taken to modernize detection and tracking stations in Sinop and Pirinclik, which are used for the electronic reconnaissance of Soviet territory.

The Pentagon, however, is obviously eager to increase this heavy military presence even further. Taking advantage of Turkey's sharp economic difficulties, including those prompted by the need to maintain an enormous army, Washington has sought to consolidate its military positions in that country and win added privileges.

This was demonstrated recently by the signing in Washington of the letters of exchange to renew a Turkish-American agreement on economic and defense cooperation until December 1990.

Having applied pressure on Istanbul, Washington has secured permission under that agreement to increase its military presence in Turkey even further in return for loans to buy arms and other aid.

The anti-Soviet thrust of American efforts on that NATO flank is apparent. U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle explained the aim of those efforts plainly when he said it was only Turkey that could block the straits linking the Black Sea with the Mediterranean and prevent the Soviet Navy from making its way there.

The Pentagon and NATO are hatching out also other dangerous plans for drawing Turkey even more deeply in nuclear preparations.

There have been plans, for instance, to site an extra number of tactical nuclear arms in Turkey and move "outdated" Pershing-1 and Lance missiles there from West European countries.

There also are plans to modernize "obsolete" nuclear weapons stationed at American bases in Turkey and replace them with more advanced, more powerful and longer-range systems.

So far, however, Washington has not succeeded in this kind of "nuclear blackmail".

Turkey has said in no unclear terms that it is against any new nuclear weapons in its territory, against the deployment of more nuclear warheads and against the modernization of American nuclear arms already on station there.

It is clear that both the visit to Turkey by the Pentagon chief and the extension of the U.S.-Turkish agreement are aimed at prodding Istanbul to step up military preparations and assume a bigger role in shoring up NATO's southern flank.

This is making for higher tension in that region and for a nervous and uneasy atmosphere there.

The latent end of such activities is also plain. It is to hinder the development of goodneighborly relations between Turkey and the Soviet Union, in which the people of these two countries are definitely interested.

ARMS REDUCTION DISCUSSED WITH SPANISH OFFICIALS

LD181902 Moscow TASS in English 1837 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- Consultations with Carlos Miranda, general director of the Department for International Security and Disarmament at Spain's foreign Ministry have been held at the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

During an exchange of views the sides came out in favour of an agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe, reduction of conventional arms and armed forces and prohibition of chemical weapons and elimination of their stockpiles.

The Soviet side highly assessed Spain's decision to join the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, a decision corresponding to the efforts directed at ridding Europe of nuclear weapons and strengthening confidence, European and international security.

Miranda was received by Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy foreign minister of the USSR.

YAKOVLEV PARTY DEPARTS SPAIN, ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD151048 Moscow TASS in English 1008 GMT 15 Mar 87

[Text] Madrid March 15 TASS -- The delegation of Foreign Affairs Commissions of the two chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by A.N. Yakovlev, alternate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and member of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, ended its official visit to Spain.

Today Soviet parliamentarians departed for the USSR from the city of Palma de Mallorca. At the airport they were seen off by F. Pons Irazazabal, president of the Congress of Deputies, one of the chambers of the Spanish Cortes Generales (parliament), and other officials.

[Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 16 March First Edition carries on page 4, under the heading "Visit Ends," a TASS report that adds: The delegation was met at Moscow Airport by N.N. Slyunkov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; A.F. Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; and other officials.]

UK'S HOWE HAILS INF CUT PLAN BUT SEEKS EUROPEANS

LD181123 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Igor Surguchev commentary]

[Text] [Announcer] British Foreign Secretary Howe, speaking at the Belgian Royal Institute of International Relations in Brussels, welcomed the proposal from Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to get rid of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. In Howe's words this proposal for the first time opens up real prospects for a tangible cut in nuclear weapons. At the same time the British minister called on West European countries of NATO to build up their military might. Here is a Mayak commentary, with Igor Surguchev at the microphone:

[Surguchev] Naturally it is delightful that the Foreign Office chief supports the idea of removing U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles from Europe and, if we are to judge by the AFP dispatch, without any reservations or links with other disarmament problems in its implementation. This can only be welcomed, bearing in mind that some in the West are hurrying to pile up artificial obstacles on the road to implementing the Soviet proposal. However, you will agree that a positive approach to resolving the problem of medium-range weapons is scarcely compatible with appeals to build up the so-called defense efforts of the European members of NATO. Mr Howe, as the saying goes, began cheerily and ended sadly.

It follows from his logic that while the USSR and the United States are ready to undertake a substantial cut in their armaments, Western European must intensively arm itself. It is obvious that this is the logic of militarism, and not disarmament for which mankind thirsts. It looks especially strange against the background of the Soviet Union's readiness to eliminate medium-range missiles on its European territory, which, as people were stating even recently in the West, create a serious threat to the security of Western Europe. If this threat is removed, then why do West European states have to strengthen their so-called military might? I will point out, incidentally, that the theory used by the British foreign secretary -- and not by him alone -- of the need for defense against the Soviet threat was always and remains a (?thoroughly) false one insofar as the USSR has never shown aggressiveness toward Western Europe or other countries.

Thus, Howe and those who think like him, are not concerned about defense in calling on European members of NATO to step up the arms race. They are moved by the aspiration to keep Western Europe outside the process of disarmament, and through an insane build-up of military might among the European countries of NATO to win military advantage for that bloc in the event of equal cuts in the U.S. and Soviet arsenals. Moreover, in a similar way, they want to gain advantage in nuclear weapons since Britain and France are continuing to accumulate and perfect them at an intensified pace.

Between the declarations from London and Paris in support of disarmament measures and their actions in practice there is still a gap. But it is time for them to show restraint in the military field and thus to promote the process of disarmament, primarily nuclear.

Other UK Reaction Noted

PM181204 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 87 p 3

[Own correspondent Yu. Sagaydak report under the rubric "Notes Apropos": "Looking Over your Shoulder?..."]

[Text] London -- The new Soviet peace initiative on eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe was greeted in the British Isles both with approval and with understanding. it won the support of representatives of the country's biggest mass antiwar ogranization -- the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. The British Peace Assembly appealed to M. Thatcher's government "speedily to make use of the opportunities available." Labor Party leader Neil Kinnock stated that the USSR's major new foreign policy initiatives make it possible to take a step forward in the cause of nuclear arms reduction. Social Democratic Party leader david Owen described the report from Moscow as "remarkable news." David Steel, head of the Liberal Party, for his part described the Soviet initiatives as "very serious" and stressed that it is incumbent on the British Government to give an "immediate and positive response."

And what do they think about it in the Tory camp, at Number 10 Downing Street? Noting that the proposal on the elimination of medium-range missiles is a "good step forward," the head of the ruling Cabinet at once stipulated that Britain cannot accept it forthwith. The reasons? None were given. But there was heartfelt talk of the "Soviet military threat," the West's defenselessness, the idea that "it is dangerous to trust the Russians. A strange view. Strange, since the Soviet proposals largely correspond to the so-called "zero option" which the West once upheld so zealously.

And what about the increased range operational and tactical missiles stationed in the GDR and Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Union since the start of the deployment of Pershings and cruise missiles in Europe, government spokesmen are asking in Parliament. And what about on-site inspection [proverka]? After all, the Russians could practice deception if you do not keep an eye on them, prominent politicans say, "sounding the alarm" in the press.

Excuse me, but all this is clearly and specifically dealt with in M.S. Gorbachev's statement. The document says unequivocally that in the event an agreement on the elimination of medium-range missiles is signed with the United States, the Soviet Union will immediately begin to withdraw increased range operational and tactical missiles. It could not be clearer. But no, those who like to muddy the waters continue to go on about these operational and tactical missiles as if they had not read the Soviet proposal carefully. One sometimes has the impression that they are breaking down open doors....

As for on-site inspection, the Soviet Union is in favor of carrying out such inspections where necessary, along with the use of national means of verification, as the Soviet leadership has stressed repeatedly. All the same, the word "inspection" ["proverka"] is repeated again and again in any commentary by British officials.

Incidentally, there was nearly embarrassment over this on-site inspection. At the beginning of last week an emergency conference of NATO representatives was convened in the Pentagon, at which, as THE GUARDIAN'S correspondent reports, there was energetic discussion of the question of... how to avoid on-site inspection. The Soviet Union's readiness to carry out such inspections, which the West has been going on about insistently for many years, caught the NATO bloc military experts unaware, so to speak. [paragraph continues]

"Nobody wanted Russians at the Greenham Common base," THE GUARDIAN says, quoting a remark by a West European representative. The Russians cannot be allowed onto our facilities, where important secrets are concentrated, another echoes him. And therefore they come to the conclusion that in the event of an agreement being concluded on medium-range missiles, they should confine themselves "basically" to technical means of verification [proverka], allowing on-site verification [kontrol] only in exceptional cases. So there.

"In my view there are several reasons why the head of the ruling cabinet has taken this position," A. Long, secretary of the British Natonal Union of Students, said in a conversation with our correspondent. "The first is that on the eve of parliamentary elections, she believes the Conservative government should take a tough line on defense so as to win popularity among the Britons. In fact, I do not believe that is so -- many people in Briain want the government to take a responsible line on the question of disarmament. I am convinced that the attitude to this problem will be reflected in the general election. The second element is that London cannot now pursue a fully independent course on questions of world policy. But these tactics of looking over your shoulder at 'uncle' will do Britain no good, and many Britons are against allowing our foreign policy to be formed across the ocean."

BRITISH BUSINESSMEN FAVOR EXPANSION OF TRADE

LD171743 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 17 Mar 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] UK business circles favor expanding mutually advantageous cooperation with the USSR.

[V. Shishkovskiy, identified by caption] The meetings and discussions, held in London and involving representatives of Soviet and UK foreign trade organizations, convincingly testify to this. The new prospects, opened up through the restructuring of the USSR's mechanism for managing foreign economic ties and the opportunity of setting up joint enterprises, have given rise to special interest here. [passage omitted]

[V. Stepanov, identified by caption] Ivan Dmitriyevich, could you tell Soviet television viewers about the meetings and conversations your delegation has had with the British colleagues and about the prospects for our cooperation?

[I.D. Ivanov, head of Soviet delegation, identified by caption] This was the third meeting with the Confederation of British Industry. We discussed the questions of the current state of and development prospects for Soviet-UK trade. Moreover, this examination was not just an academic exercise. We attempted to find our way toward some sort of practical decisions that would make it possible to expand this trade and to make it more varied, to introduce new forms into it.,

A large assault -- this is how I would put it -- of British businessmen on Moscow, due toward the end of March, is currently being prepared to coincide with the British prime minister's government visit. It will evidently be possible during this visie to arrive at some sort of practical accords through which to expand trade.

FRG'S KOHL FOREIGN POLICY STAND VIEWED

LD181755 Moscow TASS in English 1635 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Bonn March 18 TASS -- The FRG chancellor Helmut Kohl today made a government statement in the Bundestag on the main directions of the FRG's home and foreign policy in the coming four years.

He declared West Germany's adherence to the Western alliance and NATO. At the same time the head of government stressed Bonn's readiness for political dialogue and the development of large-scale cooperation with socialist countries, first of all with the Soviet Union. "Relations with the USSR are of central importance to us", Kohl stated. "The strengthening and deepening of these relations accords with the interests and aspirations of people in both our states. Thereby we promote East-West understanding and strengthen peace in Europe".

The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev speaks of a new mentality in international relations, the chancellor went on. If his course creates chances for greater mutual understanding and cooperation, for attaining concrete results in disarmament and arms control we will avail ourselves of these chances, Helmut Kohl said further. There is movement in East-West relations after the meeting in Reykjavik and this opens up new prospects for their development, he noted. In this connection the FRG chancellor declared for the holding of a new Soviet-American summit meeting already this year.

Helmut Kohl stressed that "promotion of disarmament and arms control remains an integral component" of his government's policy. He said Bonn was especially interested in the speediest conclusion of an agreement on the elimination of Soviet and American medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe. At the same time the chancellor spoke about the supposedly "continuing military threat from the Warsaw Pact" and its purported "superiority" both in the field of theatre missiles and conventional armaments.

The FRG chancellor spoke of the need to deepen relations between the FRG and the GDR, to implement the agreements and treaties concluded by them. Yet he again tried to speak on behalf of "all Germans" and again referred to the supposedly "open German question".

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATION CONFERS ON TRADE

LD181807 Moscow TASS in English 1702 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- A delegation of the group of the European People's Party of the Europeawn Parliament led by Egon Klepsch, chairman of the group and member of the board of the Christian Democratic Union of West Germany, visited the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade today.

They discussed questions connected with the development of trade and economic relations between the USSR and EEC member countries in the setting of the dramatic improvement of the management of foreign economic activities which is carried on in this country, including the creation and functioning of joint enterprises in the USSR.

The side expressed the unanimous opinion that the establishment of official relations between CMEA and EEC, as well as the development of relations between separate CMEA and EEC member states would create additional conditions for mutually advantageous cooperation in various spheres, including trade and economic sphere.

The guests visited the USSR State Weather Service Committee.

Earlier they paid a visit to the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance where they met CMEA Secretary Vyacheslav Sychev.

Meeting with Zagladin

LD181818 Moscow TASS in English 1706 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- Vadim Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR, received today a delegation of the Group of the European People's Party of the European Parliament led by Egon Klepsch, chairman of the group and member of the board of the Christian Democratic Union of West Germany. The delegation is staying in Moscow at the invitation of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR and the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation.

During a conversation the guests were informed about the reorganization which is going on in this country. The sides dwelt upon questions connected with ensuring peace and security in Europe, with the putting into life of the Helsinki accords and with the approach to the solution of all-European and world problems. They discussed in detail various aspects of the discontinuation of the arms race, including questions connected with the Soviet peace initiative aimed at eliminating American and Soviet intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

USSR-ITALY WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE CONVENES

LD172216 Moscow TASS in English 2148 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Rome March 17 TASS -- The first meeting of the working group on economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and Italy in agriculture was held in Rome to consider the state of and prospects for bilateral cooperation in agriculture and the processing industries.

The Soviet delegation to the meeting was led by Nikolay Zaychenko, vice-chairman of the U.S.S.R. State Committee for Agriculture and Related Industries.

The Italian delegation was headed by Nicola Sanese, deputy minister of industry, crafts and commerce.

The sides outlined concrete measures to scale up joint efforts with a view to fulfilling the long-term program for promoting economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries in the period till 1990.

A protocol was signed on the results of the meeting. It envisions, among other things, the possibility of joint ventures to produce and process rice with the use of a wasteless technology and to process citrus fruits.

AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY GROUP VISITS EGYPT

LD182319 Moscow TASS in English 1842 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo March 18 TASS -- A delegation from the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, on a visit here, was received today by 'Ali Lutfi, speaker of Egypt's Advisory Council.

During the conversation held in a friendly atmosphere, the sides discussed the situation in the Middle East and pointed out the need for convening an international peace conference with the participation of all sides concerned with a view to finding a fair and comprehensive settlement in the region.

The sides pointed to the identity of views on many international problems, including issues of the campaign for peace and elimination of nuclear weapons.

They stressed the mutual striving toward the further development of ties between the Soviet and Egyptian public, which would meet the interests of the peoples in the two countries.

On the same day the Soviet delegation began talks at the Egyptian Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

The visit would serve the cause of promoting traditional relations of friendship between the two peoples and cooperation between our organizations, said the committee chairman, 'Abd al-Hamid Ahmad Hamrush.

'BIG CONTRACT' FOR COKE OVEN SIGNED WITH EGYPT

LD162040 Moscow TASS in English 1721 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo March 16 TASS -- A big contract has been signed here by the All-Union Foreign Trade Association Tyazhpromeksport and the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy with the Egyptian company Nasr.

Under the contract the fourth coke-oven battery will be built at a coke-chemical plant in Helwan with Soviet technical and economic assistance. On its completion the plant's capacity will grow by 560,000 tons of coke annually.

Also concluded was a contract to expand a plant of refractory materials. This will result in almost doubling the output of these products in Egypt.

Muhammad Mahmud 'Abd al-Wahab, the Egyptian minister of industry, described the contracts as "an important step along the road of consolidating Egyptian-Soviet relations". Interviewed by TASS correspondent Aleksandr Bogatyrev the minister said that "the Soviet Union has never denied us assistance in solving economic problems. Egyptian-Soviet cooperation has a long history and good traditions, it has created a sound foundation for the further development of relations between our countries. Today the spirit of friendship and mutual understanding is a characteristic feature of these relations".

TASS INTERVIEWS GUNT DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ON SITUATION

LD182043 Moscow TASS in English 1756 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Cotonou March 18 TASS -- The Chad problem should be solved by the Chadians themselves without any outside interference, Najita Beasumal, deputy chairman of the Transitional National Unity Government (GUNT) of Chad, said here.

Speaking in an interview with TASS correspondent Aleksandr Prosvetov, he said:

"We are witnessing how a military undertaking to restore a neo-colonialist order to Chad has grown out of purely internal conflict there."

"Progressive forces in Chad today are confronting forces that include citizens of several foreign countries," he continued.

"French servicemen sent there as part of Operation Sparrow Hawk, for example, occupy a zone close to the 16th Parallel. Americans, who, unlike the French, are not in uniform, are stationed in Ndjamena and some other areas.

"It is they that have been helping forces of the Habre regime to use the modern combat equipment that keeps arriving in the Ndjamena Airport day and night.

"Habre's army also includes instructors from South Africa and Israel," Beasumal said.

"Chad's national interests," the GUNT deputy chairman said, "call for an end to the hostilities and for a search for a peaceful solution to the Chadian issue. It is now essential like never before that the Chadians discuss among themselves ways and means of a peaceful settlement."

He said the GUNT supported efforts towards this end by the Organization of African Unity and its present chairman, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of the Congo.

Beasumal said that, according to statistics, there were some 2.5 million Chadians currently outside their country.

A "historic compromise" between the warring sides, he said, would enable them to return home and open prospects for subsequent national unity.

IZVESTIYA ASSESSES U.S.-ANGOLAN RELATIONS

PM181535 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent F. Konopikhin dispatch "Washington Against Angola"]

[Text] Luanda -- The Stars and Stripes is missing among the flags fluttering above the many foreign embassies in Luanda. Official Washington does not recognize VPople's Angola and therefore it does not have diplomatic relations with this country.

However, this does not mean that there are no Americans in Angola. Transatlantic companies are well represented in the oil extracting industry. It is advantageous up to a point for Angola to cooperate with them. U.S. business circles have expressed interest in developing contacts in other spheres too but the absence of diplomatic relations is hampering this process.

The Angolan Government has tried more than once to change the prevailing situation and has proposed to Washington that diplomatic relations be established. At one time it seemed that this might happen. However, the prospects for a normalization of relations deteriorated when the R. Reagan administration embarked on a course of broad support for the anti-Agolan UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] grouping aimed at toppling people's power. The U.S. President tried to justify his interference in Angola's domestic affairs with the "need to spread freedom," describing the UNITA terrorist organization in his speech and the UN General Assembly session as the "struggling democratic resistance forces." The bandits headed by Savimbi received 15 million dollars and were even able to obtain the latest Stinger missiles.

It is indicative that while calling on others to combat international terrorism, the officials across the ocean pretend "not to notice" the terrorist actions of the "black rooster" (Savimbi's emblem) even when they are directed against U.S. citizens. Let me just recall the occasion when the Angolans thwarted the blowing up of the Cabinda Gulf Oil installations where Americans were working, and the shooting down and capture of a U.S. aircraft in the northeast of the country when purely by chance the passengers and crew did not perish. However, in both cases the United States treated this as "pranks" of its darling Savimbi whom the West needs so badly for the struggle against the "Marxist regime" in Luanda.

In its efforts to undermine the positions of the people's power, the White House is not even averse to forcing U.S. oil companies to curtail their highly advantageous oil extration in Angola. It has even tried to push a resolution through Congress which would oblige all U.S. citizens to leave that country, but it suffered a defeat. This policy is causing dissatisfaction among prominent public figures in the United States. Thus Jesse Jackson and Andrew Young who visited Angola last year declared that the White House actions run counter the country's national interests and are damaging to U.S. economic positions. Public opinion in our country is totally misinformed about what is going on in Angola, a U.S. journalist who recently visited the country has said.

In August last year the Angolan Government invited the U.S. President to visit the People's Republic of Angola to see for himself the consequences of the aggression of the Republic of South Africa and of UNITA's terrorist actions. However, R. Reagan declined the invitation, promising to send his Secretary of State G. Shultz who subsequently confined himself to visiting African countries which could be described as friendly from the U.S. point of view.

Recently the Angolan Government has again proposed that diplomatic relations be established between Angola and the United States and embassies be opened in Washington and Luanda. The White House, using Congo as a mediator, has set out its conditions for the resumption of a dialogue. The U.S. memorandum acknowledges that the question of UNITA "is an Angolan domestic issue" but points out further that "Luanda must bear this in mind if it wants the war to end."

Quite rightly, the Angolans have interpreted this formulation as a reiteration of the old demand for "reconciliation" with the bandit organization. [paragraph continues]

And if UNITA is a domestic problem of Angola's, then why does the United States give it military aid and financial support? Washington also continues to insist on the withdrawal of the Cuban military contingent from Angola, "linking" this demand with the granting of independence to Namibia. The fact that the U.S. Administration has by no means given up its policy of pressure and interference in the domestic affairs of the sovereign African country was reflected also in the course of the investigation into "Irangate" when details about secret arms deliveries to the anti-Angolan puppets were also revealed.

The Angolan leadership is hoping that in the event of Democrats coming to power in the United States the situation may change for the better. Only time will tell though. However, it should not be forgotten that the policy of active cooperation with the racists was elaborated under a Democratic president and that the Clark Amendment banning aid to anti-Angolan groupings was lifted by a House of Representatives in which Democrats had the majority. The selfsame Andrew Young played a significant role in shaping his country's foreign policy when he ws U.S. permament representative at the United Nations but he did nothing for the establishment of diplomatic relations between Washington and Luanda.

One thing is obvious. Regardless of who is in the White House, an improvement of relations, which would be in keeping with the interests of both the Angolan and the American people, is possible only if the United States unconditionally refrains from interfering in Angola's domestic affairs.

HUMANITARIAN AID TO ETHIOPIA CONTINUED

LD181207 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 18 Ma 87

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa has given a festive send off to a group of Soviet specialists who arrived in Ethiopia 2 and 1/2 years ago when the drought in that African country assumed national disaster proportions. Our correspondent Aleksandr Kraminov reports from Addis Ababa:

At the request of the Government of Ethiopia our country sent a large transport detachment made up of 12 aircraft and 24 helicopters as well as 300 heavy trucks. In fact, the world community, the socialist countries, and international aid organizations have given Ethiopia considerable food aid and there was a need to supply it to those in need as a matter of urgency. This problem would undoubtedly have been insurmountable without our pilots and drivers, given the poor roads in Ethiopia and the shortage of transportation. Three-quarters of the goods for the disaster areas were carried by the Soviet transport detachment. A large field hospital was sent urgently from our country. [passage omitted]

However, the Soviet specialists' camp in Addis Ababa will not be empty. At the request of the Government of Ethiopia some aircraft and helicopter crews will be continuing their humanitarian mission.

LISTOV: BLOCKADE OF NICARAGUA 'ROAD TO NOWHERE'

PM111209 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 March 1987 First Edition carries on page 5 under the general heading "Different Positions" a 1,000-word article by WASHINGTON POST observers Roland Evans and Robert Novak under the headline "Quarantine for Nicaragua" originally published in the 25 February edition of THE WASHINGTON POST; and, under the headline "Out of the Frying Pan into the Fire?" the following article by own international observer Vadim Listov:

"I would call the U.S. journalists Evans and Novak observers for 'special assignments.' They are known for their extensive and, moreover, deep links with the upper echelons of U.S. power -- the White House, the National Security Council, the Pentagon, and the CIA.

"But they are even more famous for sometimes providing these echelons with the sort of services they usually only demand from 'their own people.' Most often it is through them that the U.S. Administration sends up 'trial baloons' on the most acute and conflict-fraught international problems. This time too, it seems to me, their article is a model of precisely this quality.

"Evans and Novak unambiguously hint that the U.S. Adminstration is now once again discussing plans for military reprisals against Sandinist Nicaragua. The pretext is an old one -- the 'Soviet arms buildup' and 'Soviet militarization on the American continent.' The methodology of a possible operation is also nothing new: first the establishment of naval 'quarantine' around Nicaragua -- put simply, a blockade.

"But the gist of the anti-Nicaraguan action in the pipeline is somewhat different than before. Evans and Novak no longer say that Nicaragua -- as was still recently claimed by the White House -- is a 'threat to U.S. security.' The observers make no apology for stating that a naval blockade of Nicaragua would 'allow the President to leave behind the painful consequences of the arms-to-Iran scandal' and help 'the adminstration to restore its positions.'

"Well, one can agree that the purport of the sudden attacks on Nicaragua can indeed be included in the cynical calculations about diverting attention from 'Irangate.' The administration's turn toward the 'subject of Nicaragua' has been provoked by nothing other than the feverish quest for a way of the dead end in which White House policy in Central America finds itself. The Washington 'hawks' whom Evans an Novak delicately call 'supporters of vigorous action,' see a way of getting out one one adventure -- 'Irangate' -- by launching into another: a blockade of Nicaragua. Perhaps they are thinking of the proverb 'fight fire with fire' -- except in this case it would be more appropriate to recall another expression: 'out of the frying pan into the fire.'

"Evans and Novak claim that Soviet military aid to Nicaragua is allegedly the main factor that dooms to failure Reagan's policy on Nicaragua and his 'insufficiently large-scale' program of support for the Nicaraguan 'contras.' This is a typical attempt to call white, black. Yes, there are Soviet weapons in Nicaragua provided at the request of the Sandinist government. But these weapons are exclusively defensive. They serve one purpose -- helping the Nicaraguan people to defend their freedom and indpendence from incursions by imperialist circles and their mercenaries. This has repeatedly been stated by competent Soviet circles and there is no need to repeat these statements. They are will known in Washington.

"Indeed, the White House's aggressive policy, reinforced by hundreds of millions of dollars and the actions of thousands of mercenaries, has turned -- as the Americans themselves say -- into a tunnel with no light at the end. But it is the Nicaraguan people, their resolve to defend the gains of the Sandinist Revolution, and their cohesion and faith in the victory of their just cause that are 'to blame' for this.

"Reading the Evans and Novak article, you can see a kind of microcosm of the entire U.S. policy of neoglobalism. Washington is trying to make the generally local struggle of the 'contra' renegades against the people's Sandinist power regional and even global in nature.

"And now the Pentagon strategists are already figuring how many carrier groups are needed to blockade Nicaragua, how much this will 'weaken' U.S. military power in other parts of the globe, how far tension in U.S.-Soviet relations will 'increase,' and so forth.

"One feels like saying: Gentlemen, has the 'Kennedy option,' which Evans and Novak are pushing, not taught Washington anything?

"Back in October 1962, announcing a naval blockade of Cuba, the United States led the world right to the dangerous brink of a military confrontation.

"The times have changed and the parameters of international conflicts -- even those that seem to be of the least importance -- are different. So would it not be better for Washington to embark on the path of a political settlement and heed the appeals of the Latin Americans themselves and the entire world community to abandon its attempts to solve Central America's complex problems by force instead of 'teetering on the brink' and creating a situation 'fraught with the danger of a crisis with the Soviet Union'?!

"After all, it is quite obvious that the crisis situation in Central America is primarily linked with the undeclared U.S. war against Nicaragua. It is common knowledge that the tension in the region has been artificially created and equally artificially whipped up, because, you see, the United States does not find the Sandinist regime 'to its liking.' That is why Washington is openly sabotaging the Contadora Group's efforts and wrecking a peaceful political settlement.

"In other words, the present administration's great-power ambitions continue to outweigh the need to demonstrate new political thinking and assess international life from sensible and realistic positions.

"But the military-political bluff -- and that is the only way to view the essence of the Evans and Novak article -- is not only inappropriate under present conditions, it is dangerous. It cannot open up a way out of difficult situations. It is a road that leads only to a dead end, a road to nowhere."

ORTEGA LINKS C. AMERICA PEACE TO U.S. ATTITUDE

LD182105 Moscow TASS in English 1835 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] New York March 18 TASS -- President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua has said that no peace plan for Central America could succeed without a fundamental change in the attitude of the Reagan administration.

Speaking in an interview with THE NEW YORK TIMES, he said: "As long as the United States is not willing to negotiate, the Arias proposal, the Contadora proposal, and the proposals made by Nicaragua and other Central American countries will remain only proposals.

"If there is a desire on the part of the United States to reach an agreement, one could be reached quickly, and it would respond to the major security concerns of the United States to reach an agreement, one could be reached quickly, and it would respond to the major security concerns of the United States.

"The most reasonable thing President Reagan could do would be to listen to Central America, to Latin America and to his own Congress, and change his policy."

CASTRO ADDRESSES RALLY MARKING 1957 STUDENT RISING

PM171557 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At Havana Rally"]

[Text] Havana, 14 Mar -- Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the republic's Councils of State and Ministers, addressed a festive rally held at Havana University Friday [13 March] to mark the 30th anniversary of the heroic storming of the presidential palace. The storming was carried out 13 March 1957 by members of the "Revolutionary Directorate," a militant organization of university students, to destroy the dictator Batista and call on the Cuban people to participate in the national liberation struggle.

By making this courageous decision, F. Castro declared, the Directorate, headed by J.A. Echeverria, fulfilled the agreement it had signed in Mexico with the revolutionary "26 July Movement" on pooling efforts in the armed struggle against the dictatorship.

Progressive students, F. Castro noted, have always been in the front ranks of fighters for freedom and social justice. Following the victory of the revolution, when imperialism began its threats and aggressive actions against Cuba, the struggle between revolutionary and counterrevolutionary ideas sharpened. Anticommunism, a prove tool of internal and external reaction, still held strong positions in the country. The students sided almost with a man of revolution and socialism, in defense of Marxism-Leninism.

We honor the memory of the dead students, F. Castro declared, by the fact that our country today has dozens of institutes and universities which train almost 300,000 young men and women.

PRAVDA CITES GROMYKO KALININ OBLAST ADDRESS

PM171211 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "For the Soviets' Active Participation in Restructuring Affairs"]

[Text] Kalinin, 13 Mar -- A session of the Kalinin Oblast soviet was held here today. A month ago the oblispolkom asked the working people of the Upper Volga to share their thoughts on the question submitted for the session's agenda: What should be done to improve the organization of agricultural production, to increase labor productivity, and to introduce more rapidly the most rational forms of management and financial autonomy? The working people's proposals and remarks were generalized in a special bulletin and discussed at a "roundtable" which preceded the session and were reflected in its documents.

The keynote speaker, Oblispolkom Chairman A.I. Ilyenkov, who opened the session, announced that the letters had made it possible to obtain a more integral and precise picture of the state and development of the oblast's agro-industrial complex and to reveal serious omissions on the path of its restructuring. No one doubts that the introduction of economic methods of economic management should be the focus of the soviets' attention. Thanks to the transfer of many subdivisions to the collective contract and financial autonomy last year, a step forward has been successfully taken in the development of arable farming and stockraising. The successes show what an enormous reserve is concealed in progressive forms of organizing production. As yet the soviets and the agricultural committees under their jurisdiction have failed to ensure the fulfillment of the programs for their introduction.

The widespread introduction of the collective contract is being hampered by subjective and objective factors, Yu.M. Krasnov, first secretary of the Bezhetskiy CPSU Raykom, believes. Inertia is still strong in a number of leaders who have grown accustomed to old methods of management. The proportion of manual labor in flax growing is staggering. Yet the "Bezhetskselmash" plant nearby which produces appropriate equipment is only slowly developing its capacities.

Other speakers also touched on the problem of material back-up for effective forms of production. V.M. Khlebnikov, leader of a mechanized link at the "Davydovskiy" Sovkhoz, noted that his farm does not have the necessary quantity of fertilizers. To this day the production of mechanisms for the most progressive flax harvesting method -- the roller method -- has not been set up on a broad scale.

The introduction of financial autonomy in stockraising requires good technical back-up for the stockraising units, V.I. Romashov, chairman of the Kalininskiy Rayispolkom, said. The rayon's soviets and farms have steered a course toward the units' modernization, but the tempo of this modernization is being held up by the shortage of equipment.

The power of the collective contract was convincingly demonstrated by Hero of Socialist Labor Ye.A. Yakovlev. Once a renowned link leader, when he headed the lagging "Put k kommunizmu" Kolkhoz he gambled from the very first days on the single job schedule and financial autonomy. He persuaded arable farmers and stockraisers to unite on this basis and organized their training. Within a year the farm had come out in front, doubling and trebling the production of all kinds of output. At the same time Ye.A. Yakovlev warned in his speech against excessive haste in creating links. Many of them fall apart because of insufficient thought given to all aspects of relationships with the farm, because of the inadequate linkup between their work and financial autonomy, or even because of petty tutelage.

A.A. Khodyrev, rector of the agricultural institute, devoted his speech to problems of training cadres for the agricultural complex.

Concern for transferring agricultural to progressive forms of organizing labor is the direct business of the deputies, L.Ya. Melnikova, chairman of the Zharkovskiy rural soviet ispolkom, noted. We have discussed the question of introducing the collective contract at a soviet session and organized constant monitoring of the work of the "Pobeda" Kolkhoz's first nonregulated stockraising unit. Its experience has made it possible to painlessly transfer all the other dairy units and the tractor and field cultivation team to the contract system. People are easger to come to work with us now.

Then A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, who was spending his third day in Kalinin Oblast, delivered a speech to the gathering. The entire country, he said, is now living through its most crucial period in many years. Indeed, in the entire postwar period. Imposing restructuring, the acceleration of our society's economic, social, and spiritual development is under way.

Everywhere you can feel the powerful influence of the ideas of the CPSU Central Committee April (1987) Plenum and the 27th CPSU Congress. The party, the soviets of people's deputies, the labor collectives, and the entire people are resolving new large-scale tasks. This was stated graphically and convincingly in M.S. Gorbachev's report at the Central Committee January Plenum and in its resolution.

The plenum showed the decisive importance of the correct education and placement of cadres and directed Soviet people toward work under the new conditions. All society has been set in motion. It may boldly be said that there is not a single person now who does not feel or should not feel himself isolated from broad-scale politics and important local matters. The atmosphere of purging what is preventing development is pervading all cells of our social organism. The Soviet economy is pointing in the correct direction and positive trends are gathering increasing strength. Restructuring is not proceeding simply. This too was shown at the Central Committee January Plenum. It is accompanied by the uncompromising breaking of everything delaying our development.

It is very important to fully reveal the potential of every labor collective, every team, stockraising unit, and leader. People's initiative must be developed not on paper but in reality; the maximum yield must be obtained from this. Here it is essential to engage simultaneously in transformations in the economy and in social development. Only thus will we be able to achieve the necessary results. The soviets are also responsible for all our deeds both centrally and locally.

Restructuring is also leading to profound changes in the content of the soviets' activity. Nor could it be otherwise: The soviets bring together all threads of state policy and combine people's interests and demands. Every day they express and must express in deeds the will of working people and of the broad people's masses and implement the political line of the party and state.

In July last year, imparting concrete form to this prospect, the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers adopted a resolution on enhancing the role of the soviets and stepping up their responsibility for the acceleration of society's socioeconomic development. Some 6 months have already elapsed. [paragraph continued]

Today it is time to look at what its effect is on the work of soviet and economic organs and their leaders. There is no doubt that it has been a component of restructuring and the program work of the soviets and their organs.

The Kalinin Gorispolkom has given quite a good account of itself. For many years it has acted as the sole client for the construction of housing and municipal and cultural and consumer projects and it unites in its hands two-thirds of all capital investments for these needs. Here over 60 percent of appropriations are made up of enterprises' funds.

The Belyanitsy rural soviet, Sonkovskiy Rayon, is collaborating skillfully with the "Krasnyy Oktyabr" Kolkhoz in developing the social infrastructure.

We in the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium regularly examine various aspects of the activity of soviet organs in various regions of the country. What is emerging? Throughout the country as a whole the soviets are still providing insufficient guidance for economic and social development. A correct assessment of the state of affairs is not always given at sessions. Sharp corners are frequently bypassed. There are many elements of formalism and ostentation in their work. Control over the execution of their own decisions also remains slack. Sometimes good, strict decisions are put on ice, as they say, and remain unfulfilled. As a result many enterprises are failing to cope with the plans. Sociocultural development is lagging. All this is delaying restructuring and does not accord with the party's policy or the people's interests.

The discrepancy between economic and social development is to the advantage of neither the state nor the working people. More -- it is harmful. Only balance between these two spheres and their sensible combination will make it possible to put into operation our main reserve -- the human factor.

The oblast soviets must make more active use of the right to pool the funds of enterprises and organizations situated on their territories, to put in their own funds, and to construct housing, kindergartens and creches, clubs, and other installations important to inhabitants. In general this work is under way in your oblast, but too little of it is being done, and too slowly. It is no accident that speeches voicing just criticism can also be heard at this session.

Matters with regard to the production of consumer goods have also taken shape unfavorably. Repairs, consumer services, the production of construction materials, and even construction on orders from citizens -- the entire services sphere must be the focus of attention and under the unremitting control of the soviets.

In accordance with the resolution already mentioned, a further 0.5 percent of total capital investments will now be earmarked on a compulsory basis for the development of the production of local construction materials. This is a help to the soviets and we must think about how to make the most effective use of the additional funds.

The law on individual labor activity comes into force in May. Its aim is to make the maximum use of free manpower resources and to increase the production of consumer goods and services for the population and improve their quality. It is not out of the question that difficulties may arise with this law unless serious preparatory work is performed.

There are cases where in some places individual representatives of institutions look askance at people who display readiness to make use of the law on individual labor activity. Sometimes they even demand explanations as to why someone has decided to engage in this activity. The person begins to be treated with suspicion. This is intolerable.

Kimry, Torzhok, Kalyazin, and Krasnyy Kholm -- folk handicraft centers in which thousands of skilled workers live to this day -- were once renowned. They should be given the opportunity to share their draft with new generations before it is lost. At the same time to fill the store shelves. Cooperative forms of organizing services for citizens undoubtedly require more attention from the local organs.

An important function of the soviets is concern for the population's health, for medical services, and the organization of people's civilized, healthy leisure.

Young people require special attention in the restructuring process. Training and educating them, preparing them for independent labor and life -- that is very important! The school reform and the development of the entire system of national education is proceeding with difficulty in your oblast. Educational work and the construction of school buildings and vocational and technical colleges are both lagging.

Last year the oblast failed to commission the 720-place study complex at the rural vocational and technical college in Staritskiy Rayon and workshops at another vocational and technical college in Redkino settlement. There are obviously some explanations, yet only 7 percent and 15 percent respectively of the annual capital investments for these projects have been assimilated.

There are 22,000 students studying at the oblast's VUZ'S. There specialists are the future of socialist society, our spiritual potential. We must make effective and most productive use of it.

Our club institutions would be doing a lot if they managed to unite young people around themselves, if young people were drawn there to meet with intelligent, interesting people. It is time that the soviets and Komsomol examined forms and methods of work with young people and attracted talented, committed people.

A.A. Gromyko then dwelled on questions of intensifying the real democratization of society and enhancing the moral orientation of our policy. To ensure that democracy does not remain a fine slogan but firmly enters the flesh and blood of the social organism, he said, it is essential to seek the population's universal, active participation in social life and in the soviets' plans and deeds.

The soviets are a form of the people's self-management. Those soviets which are enlisting a wide range of people to the preparation of sessions, which hold ispolkom and standing commission sessions out of town, and which publish in the press and discuss the drafts of their decisions and ispolkom reports are acting absolutely correctly, in the spirit of the January plenum.

Unfortunately, an analysis of the situation in the oblast shows there are soviets which have still not rid themselves of elements of formalism and routine. I shall cite one figure: Last year the oblispolkom sent out about 1,000 decisions and directive to local areas.

Democracy under the new conditions requires the intensification of control by the elected soviet organs and people's deputies over the activity of executive organs and their apparatuses. No one can replace the functions of the people's representatives. That is why it is important to increase the role of the soviet deputies elected by the people.

A large amount of work is now under way on questions of improving the existing electoral system. It is a case of nominating as candidates the people who are worthiest and who enjoy prestige, who are capable of making their contribution to the common cause of restructuring and acceleration. They must be discussed as widely as possible and the mass media must be enlisted for the purpose.

In holding routine elections, especially to those local soviets where it is proposed to test the new procedure for nominating candidate deputies for enlarged electoral okrugs and voting for several candidates, we must totally exclude elements of formalism and excessive organization which have occurred for many years. A democratic atmosphere must be ensured at the elections and an opportunity must really be given to elect the most competent and authoritative representatives of the people -- that is our aim!

The development of democratic principles is now under way on all the main avenues of society's life. We are all participants in the nationwide discussion of the draft law on the state enterprise. It organically combines one-man leadership and collegiality and proposes enshrining the rule on the elected appointment of leaders of all production links.

The changes taking place in the countryside and the intensification of arable farming and stockraising create favorable conditions for improving agricultural production. Certain advances can also be seen in your oblast. Gross harvests of grain, potatoes, and vegetables have increased somewhat. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes have completed the elaboration of scientifically substantiated systems of arable farming for the 12th 5-Year Plan. Over half of all arable land is cultivated and about 20 percent of cows and 40 percent of pigs in the oblast are kept under the conditions of the collective contract.

The high degree of effectiveness of the contract is borne out of the work of the collective of the Imeni Kalinina Kolkhoz, Kalininskiy Rayon, or Yu.F. Smirnov's team from the "Leninskaya Iskra" kolkhoz, Maksatikhinskiy Rayon, which obtained 30 quintals of grain and 172 quintals of potatoes per hectare last year.

Stagnation phenomena are being overcome only slowly in the oblast's agriculture as a whole.

Kalinin Oblast has long been renowned for its flax and has been called the land of flax which, incidentally, has always been a highly profitable crop. What is the situation today? Even the reduced plans for flax production are not being fulfilled by the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. It is difficult to buy good-quality linen textiles and other flax products in your stores.

The standard of comprehensive mechanization of dairy farms in the oblast is showing a towfold or threefold lag behind neighboring oblasts. This is leading to additional labor expenditure. Very often the hastily organized contracting teams and links fail to influence the standard of arable farming, make poor use of intensive technology, obtain meager harvests, and overspend on material and monetary funds. [paragraph continues]

In a number of rayons, soviet and economic organs, instead of giving businesslike support to new forms and methods of work, have treated them as a campaign and are trying to conduct the campaign using administrative methods.

With a view to boosting the country's food resources the state is promoting the development of the subsidiary farms of enterprises and organizations and citizens' private farms. What is happening? A number of the oblast's enterprises, including large-scale ones, while they have adequate opportunity, are failing to pay due attention to the development of these farms.

The food contribution from private farms is also being reduced with every passing year. For various reasons kolhozes and sovkhozes are failing to implement the opportunties granted to them to sell the population up to 30 percent of the planned harvest and entire above-plan harvest of fruit and vegetables.

The responsibility, and indeed the potential, of the soviets' rayon and rural echelon is particularly great in this matter. They are closest to agricultural production and to rural inhabitants' needs and requirements. Where the soviets have changed their style of work and faced the workers, where the deputies set good examples of organizational work -- this as a rule produces positive results.

Difficult, strenuous work faces us all. Conscientious work, Lenin-style. Yet in some places both in the center and locally people have prepared poorly for the new demands. Restructuring obiges usto improve the standard of work on every sector, to increase each person's efforts so he can really feel his contribution to the consolidation of the country's economic and defense might. Today their attitude toward restructuring and their real deeds to implement it serve as the criterion for our cadres' party assessment.

The struggle for reliable external conditions for Soviet people's creative labor remains the daily concern of our party and its Central Committee and the Soviet state. The situation taking shape in the world gives grounds for serious concern.

The overwhelming majority of states warmly supported the 18-month Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions. The whole world saw in it our readiness to create conditions for the total cessation of nuclear weapons tests. It is not our fault that the United States refused to follow this good example and took no account of the people's will and the urgent requests of dozens of governments.

Our state's active, dynamic foreign policy proposes practical solutions to the fundamental questions of the present day, is seeking an improvement on all salients, and is exerting growing influence on the shaping of approaches in international affairs with a consideration for the present situation.

Persistently paving the way to the implementation of its program for a nuclear-free world, the USSR recently took one more important step. It suggested singling out the problem of medium-range missiles in Europe from the package of questions under discussion in Geneva at the Soviet-U.S. task and immediately concluding a separate agreement on this problem.

The Soviet Union's vigorous actions in the international arena, like the line toward restructuring in internal affairs, have markedly added to the strength of all those who favor peace. [paragraph continues]

Of course, we will continue to counter deception with truth and the "Star Wars" policy with the policy of peace. If, despite our peace efforts, people continue to strain to enter space with weapons, then we will find a fitting response to this too.

The Soviet leadership believes the best. The Soviet people's selfless labor serves as the reliable basis for the country's peaceful future. Embarking on the path of profound chances, we must scale new heights and mark the 70th anniversary of the Great October with labor achievements, and successfully continue the struggle for the fulfillment of the imposing plans of the 12th 5-Year Plan.

DOLGIKH SPEAKS IN ORENBURG ON RESTRUCTURING

PM181209 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "The Strategy of Acceleration"]

[Text] Novotroitsk (Orenburg Oblast), 12 Mar -- The Communists and all the working people of the Orsk-Khalilovo Metallurgical Combine received the decision of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum as a new boost to the efforts to step up restructuring, the development of democracy, and the strengthening of socialist discipline. The metal workers are trying to consolidate the positive trends in their work, to firmly pursue the course of the acceleration of the socioeconomic development of their enterprise, and to instill a sense of efficient management in every worker.

An interesting, businesslike discussion about the progress of restructuring, about its first successes, and about the difficulties which have arisen in its path was held at a meeting on 11 March between the conbine's collective and V.I. Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The meeting was addressed by V.F. Chirikhin, the combine's director; I.G. Sakmarkin, reduction shop operator and 27th CPSU Congress delegate; V.I. Sobakar, railroad transport administration party committee secretary; V.I. Kapuba, electrical installation worker; A.M. Koblov, coking and chemical production shot fitter; V.I. Yermolov, deputy head of the No 2 engineering shop, V.Yu. Nizhelskiy, blast furnace shop gas worker; A.I. Bovtruk, Orsk-Khalilovo metallurgical combine senior merchandizing specialist; C.P. Rodion, open-hearth shop steel worker; V.A. Nepomnyashchiy, No 2 sheet rolling shop operator; and V.P. Kudryavtsev, chromium compound plant party committee secretary.

They said restructuring, which accords with the working people's fundamental interests, is gathering momentum and affecting more and more aspects of the enterprise collective's activity. However, not everything is going smoothly, and the transformations are not proceeding vigorously enough. So far it has not been possible to achieve stable production indicators, questions pertaining to social development are being resolved too slowly, the pace of housing construction is slow, and the labor collective's potential is not being sufficiently exploited. It has not yet proved possible everywhere to overcome stagnation, to provide full scope for the creativeness of the masses, and to strengthen discipline and order.

Speakers cited examples of too timid an approach to democratization, of excessive administration by injunction, of a slow switch to full financial autonomy. [paragraph continues]

It was noted that the introduction of the new forms of labor organization is sometimes unjustifiably slow and attitudes of dependence on others have not yet been eradicated. The speakers described untapped production reserves and emphasized that only intensive creative labor on the part of every individual can lead to success in the common cause and to high end results.

V. Dolgikh then gave an address.

Our party, he said, consistently implements the course of accelerated development and the restructuring of all the spheres of Soviet society's life. The CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum occupies a special place in this effort to transform the situation. In his report to the plenum Comrade M.S. Gorbachev formulated the basic concepts of the theory of restructuring and outlined the ways and methods of deepening this process.

The plenum directives on the further democratization of state, social, and intraparty life, the improvement of cadre policy, and the switch to new conditions of management do not apply only to the present stage but are also geared to the future and called upon to create the fundamental preconditons for the successful achievement of the party's program aims. The country's working people are fully determined to implement the CPSU line of restructuring and renewal and accelerated and improved development of the Soviet society. The main thing is to prevent a gulf from forming between the charted course and its practical implementation by means of persistent and purposeful work everywhere.

Noting the country's achievements during the initial stage of the 5-year plan, V.I. Dolgikh emphasized that they must not be overestimated. The beginning of 1987 was marked by a complex economic situation caused not just by unfavorable weather conditions but also by the unsatisfactory preparations for the winter period on the part of many enterprises, sectors, and regions.

The economic growth rate decreased during January-February and qualitative indicators deteriorated. Serious disruption occurred in ferrous metallurgy -- the sector did not fulfill the plan for the production of the main types of output and failed to meet its contractual commitments. It is necessary to daily increase the effort to eliminate the shortfall and to adopt all measures necessary to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of the set targets.

Dwelling on tasks and problems of ferrous metallurgy, the CPSU Central Committee secretary noted that the sector has entered a development stage which is primarily characterized by the transition to resource-saving production techniques. The planned increase in the output of rolled metal in the current 5-year plan is to be achieved virtually without increasing the extraction of iron ore or the production of coke and pig iron. Large-scale measures will have to be implemented to improve the quality of metal output and to sharply increase the output of cost-efficient types of metal. This calls for extensive retooling and modernization of metallurgical enterprises and the introduction of progressive technological processes.

A certain amount of work has been carried out in the sector to create the technical base for the implementation of these tasks. However, we cannot be satisfied with what has been achieved to date. The impact of past mistakes and omissions in the implementation of technical policy, the design of enterprises, and the insufficiently effective utilization of capital investments is felt.

In light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum and the tasks facing Soviet metal workers I would like to dwell today in some detail on the concerns and plans of your collective, the speaker said.

The Orsk-Khalilovo metallurgical combine is one of the sector's major enterprises. More than 4 million metric tons of steel and 3 million metric tons of high-grade rolled metal are produced here annually. The enterprise collective started fulfilling the 5-year plan on the whole successfully: The output of steel and rolled metal has increased and labor productivity has risen.

V.I. Dolgikh dwelt on the topical problems of the further development of metallurgy. He said the party organization, leading cadres, and the combine's entire labor collective must give priority to tackling questions of scientific and technical progress, effecting the remodeling and modernization of the main production capacities, mastering the production of new cost-efficient types of metal output, and expanding and strengthening links with sector science. It is necessary to more boldly expose shortcomings and to more fully utilize reverves.

It cannot be considered normal that around 50 percent of the work force at the combine is engaged in manual labor. At the same time large quantities of tools and equipment designed for production mechanization are underused or idling altogether. The potential for increasing labor productivity is by no means fully exploited.

An important problem which is directly connected with the strategy of acceleration and restructuring of the economy is the radical improvement of output quality in general, and of metal quality in particular. A certain amount of work in this sphere has been carried out at the enterprise. However, there are also serious shortcomings. Last year the losses incurred through the production of substandard output totaled R10 million. The damage is almost equivalent to the sum of money invested in housing construction over the past 3 years. This alarming fact testifies to inertia in restructuring and insufficient exactingness toward cadres.

This year state acceptance of output has been introduced at 40 ferrous metallurgy enterprises and 51 nonferrous metallurgy enterprises, including your combine. It was thought that this was carefully prepared. However, practice is also revealing quite a few omissions. The struggle to improve the quality of work must be turned into an offensive and must be waged along a broad front. No retreat is possible. The main thing is to ensure everywhere the strict observance of technological discipline, improve the rate of provision of technical equipment for production facilities, reinforce monitoring, and establish in shops, shifts, and teams a moral climate in which honest high-grade labor is encouraged in every way while people who produce rejects are subjected to serious material and moral pressure. An important factor in improving the quality of metal output is the enhancement of the quality of the production process in the broadest sense of the term.

A major reserve for enhancing production efficiency is the better exploitation of available capacities. However, in individual shops equipment is used inefficiently and above-plan outages are very high. Returns on capital have decreased during the past 5-year plan. Over an extensive period of time the unique strip rolling mill has failed to produce the planned range of output and electro-steel smelting furnace capacities took longer than the normative period to assimilate.

In conditions of retructuring and all-around production intensification resource-saving is of key importance. [paragraph continues]

The combine's collective is faced with the task of stepping up the economy drive and scaling down the relative consumption of raw materials, fuel, and energy. A serious problem in metallurgy is the utilization of waste metal, that is using waste metal to produce semi-finished or finished goods. This is directly relevant to your enterprise too, where around 1.2 million metric tons of waste metal is produced annually during the production of rolled metal. Of this only 45,000 metric tons are used, the rest is smelted again. An especially topical issue is the reduction of the metal-intensiveness of national income. The successful solution of this question depends largely on a radical improvement of the use of metal output in machine building.

Dwelling on questions pertaining to the need to improve investment policy, V.I. Dolgikh drew attention to the unsatisfactory fulfillment last year of the plan for the commissioning of fixed capital at the combine, the low quality of design documentation, and the slow development of the direct labor construction method.

An important role in the solution of the complex tasks in the acceleration of socioeconomic development belongs to primary party organizations. They must develop in every way the initiative of labor collectives as the central component of restructuring. This is now at the focus of organizational and political work at the enterprise.

At the present stage paramount importance is attached to the radical improvement of cadre policy. The combine has highly qualified leaders, specialists, and workers. To use this potential more effectively the party organization must resolutely eradicate shortcomings in work with cadres. Individual leaders are slow to learn the new methods of management and their work does not meet current requirements. It is necessary to increase labor collectives' say in the selection of cadres and the supervision of their work, to actively introduce the practice of electing economic managers, and to instill in every specialist and worker a sense of great responsibility for the task entrusted to him.

It is especially necessary to improve work with middle-management cadres, on whom the reinforcement of discipline and improvement of production and labor organization largely depends. It is necessary to swiftly restructure the system of further education and improve the system of workers' certification, which must become an effective lever in the further improvement of their professional, ideological, and political standards.

It is necessary to make a more vigorous effort to master economic methods of production management and to apply them in practice. This is particularly important in light of the new principles of management enshrined in the Draft USSR Law on the State Enterprise (association). Now it is necessary to implement a range of measures which make it possible to effectively exercise the broad rights of the basic prouction unit.

Questions of the formation of stable labor collectives and retention of cadres demand constant attention, the CPSU Central Committee secretary said. Success in this sphere depends largely on metal workers' working and living conditions. Over the past 6 years almost 140,000 square meters of housing has been comissioned at the combine. Around R16 million has been spent on labor safety measures and the improvement of working conditions. At the same time the housing problem remains acute and there is a shortage of children's preschool establishments. Enterprise management must pay much attention to the social development of the collective. Subsidiary farming must be expanded in every way, the consumer service system must be developed and brought as close as possible to the production sphere.

A key task is the intensification of preventive work aimed at reducing industrial accidents and the sickness rate. As yet this work is conducted unsystematically at the enterprise and as a result losses of working time are high.

It is necessary with utmost persistence to implement the line aimed at firmly establishing a sober way of life and reinforcing discipline and order to production in every way. Here it is necessary to act forcefully, making full use of public opinion and moral and material pressures.

It is necessary, as Comrade M.S. Gorbachev stressed at the Soviet Trade Union Congress, to radically improve the leadership of socialist competition, to gear it to qualitative indicators, resource-saving, and the strict fulfillment of contract deliveries, and to develop creativeness, initiative, and competitiveness in labor.

On this basis it is necessary to develop even further within the combine's collective the movement for greeting the 70th anniversary of Great October in a worthy fashion, to overcome more swiftly the lag in the production of rolled metal, and to ensure the successful fulfillment of the plan targets for the first quarter and the current year of the 5-year plan as whole.

In conclusion V.I. Dolgikh expressed confidence that the collective of the Orsk-Khalilovo metallurgical combine will spare no effort, experience, or know-how in the consistent implementation of the historic decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary answered questions from the meeting participants.

PRAVDA ON KUNAYEV, REFORM IN KAZAKHSTAN

PM161151 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 87 First Edition p 2

[Correspondents G. Dildyayev and T. Yesilbayev report: "Facing Up to the Truth. From Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"; passages within slantlines published in boldface capitals]

[Text] Alma-Ata -- The plenum's work began long before it actually opened. You could even say it began in mid-December last year, when the leadership of the republic party organization's Central Committee was replaced. The last 3 months have convinced everyone how stagnant social life in Kazakhstan had been when in just 90 days there have been changes that are seen, without exaggeration, as revolutionary. Seemingly immutable notions and authorities have been shaken and debunked. Old links are being resolutely broken and the web of protectionism and nepotism is being swept aside. Democratic principles are being affirmed and have been greeted with enthusiasm by the people of Kazakhstan.

The way was paved for these changes by the new political atmosphere prevailing in the country after April 1985 and by the 27th CPSU Congress. The practical implementation of the congress' decisions in Kazakhstan was delayed, not to say sabotaged, by those who had prospered during the "halcyon days" maintained for 5-year plan after 5-year plan for the clan of the elect in the republic.

/AT THE TURNING POINT./ PRAVDA's mail indicates the interest in Kazakhstan felt in the country today is determined not so much by the flareup of nationalist phenomena during the December events in Alma-Ata (their importance should not be underestimated, but it would be wrong, and also unfair to the people's good name, to regard them as being of paramount importance) as by precisely the experience of overcoming the crisis and the practical actions of the renewed Central Committee apparatus, the republic's party organizations, and their elective organs.

The plenum, which discussed the republic party organization's tasks to fulfill the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum's decisions "On Restructuring and the Party's Cadre Policy," was a logical continuation of the consolidation of healthy forces being carried out in the republic and of the introduction of new forms and approaches into the practice of restructuring. The plenary session was like a "brainstorming session" about these problems. The plenum had to answer many questions, and the Central Committee members faced up to the truth in seeking answers to them.

A few days ago PRAVDA published a detailed and principled response to a number of recent critical articles in the newspaper. The response named people exemplifying the negative processes that took place in the republic. We are not going to repeat them; we will speak of something else -- the conclusions reached by the plenum.

Describing the situation, G. Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, cited in his report Lenin's remark about leaders who have lost a sense of reality: "The machine shoots off out of control: There seems to be someone sitting there steering it, but the machine travels in the wrong direction.... It travels in not altogether the way, and very often in altogether not the way, that the person sitting at the wheel of the machine imagines."

What was the result of this? People pontificated from lofty rostrums about achievements in international education and "pontificated themselves" into riots provoked by nationalistically minded elements. There were incessant speeches about the flourishing economy, but the production growth rate was declining swiftly and the republic was receiving constant handouts from all-union funds. It was publicly claimed that republican organs watched vigilantly over the observance of principles of social justice, but real life confronted people with unpardonable injustice.

"Manor houses," as the saying goes, were constructed all over Kazakhstan for a selected circle of leaders -- luxurious mansions, "hunting lodges" with saunas, greenhouses, billiard rooms, movie theaters, and swimming pools. They were equipped with luxurious furniture and other attributes of a princely lifestyle. All these sumptuous houses stood empty awaiting visiting notables. How many people were paid to tend and protect these buildings hidden from the people's eyes!

Was there nothing else to do with the money and resources? No, there are plenty of social problems in the republic.

"At our combine most of the burning problems, such as housing and the organization of public catering and working people's leisure, were not resolved for ages," V. Dukhovnykh, senior smelter at the Ust-Kamenogorsk Titanium and Magnesium Combine, said at the plenum.

In the last 10 years only 68 percent of the funds allocated for the development of public health in Kazakhstan were assimilated.

The necessary level of treatment of the sick, especially those with cancers and tuberculosis, has not been ensured. There are not enough maternity homes in the republic. Waiting lists for housing grow, year in and year out. The infrastructure for culture and sport is weak. There is an acute shortage of children's preschool establishments. Many schools have to hold classes in three shifts.

The plenum participants also made a detailed analysis of the reasons for the failures in the economy. Losing their sense of reality, certain leaders who had not renounced parochial ambitions maintained the republic's agriculture had been developed so swiftly that Kazakhstan was providing bread and meat for virtually half the country. The plenum dotted the "i's" on this question too. It said: The desire at all costs to loudly report another billion poods of grain created turmoil in the rural economy. In their zeal to "distinguish themselves" farms handed in feed grain and their seed stocks. All this led to a decline in production of livestock products and to a deterioration in food supplies to the population.

/CHECKING THE COURSE./ Having taken the wheel of the directionless "machine," the new Central Committee leadership is trying to steer it toward real goals and tasks, to take the highway of democratizing social life, to establish openness as the norm, and to activate the masses' social creativity.

The plenum participants noted the recent sharp increase in the intensity of the efforts of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee,which is generating ideas and suggesting specific ways and methods of implementing them to all the republic's party organizations. The activity of the republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers and of the Kazakh Trade Union Council has become considerably more effective.

"We need to spur people to specific deeds of restructuring," the main speaker noted. "So that they come to believe in the possibility of solving the most complex problems, to believe in their own strength and ours, and to sense the fruitfulness of our efforts."

The plenum participants saw the elimination of the gulf between word and deed as the main sign of the changes taking place in the Central Committee's activity. The fair distribution of products and the handover of residences and "small guesthouses" for use as kindergartens and rest homes or to large families have aroused a sense of satisfaction among the people of Kazakhstan. They approve the measures aimed at improving the study of the Kazakh and Russian languages in the republic and at raising standards in relations between nations.

Assessment criteria in resolving the housing problem are changing. What is being taken as the basis is not impersonal square meters, but the rate at which the waiting list for housing decreases. Reserves have been identified which will make it possible to exceed by 30 percent the annual target for the construction of apartments and houses. Leaders report regularly to labor collectives on progress in resolving this task.

Karaganda is the oblast center in which the housing problem is probably most acute and chronic. Over 37,000 townspeople are on the waiting list. During the break between sessions we talked with M. Ustinovskiy, first secretary of the party gorkom.

"Even when we fulfilled the plans for housing construction, we were unable to shorten the list," he said. "The 'Housing-91' program formulated by the Central Committee overturned our idea of our potential, gave a powerful fillip to initiative, and stirred departments and economic managers into action. I can say that this year we will shorten the list by 6,000 families."

/OPENNESS STIFLES GOSSIP./ What used to happen until recently? As soon as the business part of a meeting was over, the guy in charge of the office would lower his voice conspiratorially: Any news? Whose protege is going up in the world? What's his clan and tribe?

The general passion for such games of cadre solitaire is coming to an end. Zones forbidden to criticism have vanished. The press, radio, and television constantly inform the population about the measures taken by the Central Committee to impose order and discipline. For the first time in many years the real situation can be seen without embellishments and window dressing.

Many items in the local press also show that openness in the republic is becoming increasingly incisive and uncompromising. Without mincing words, the newspapers have begun to conduct an open and honest discussion of those who, when they occupied high posts, abused their official position and took numerous relatives under their wing. "Poisoned by Total License" was the title of the article in KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA about A. Askarov, former first secretary of the Chimkent party obkom.

Truthful and timely information stifles various rumors and gossip. The press regularly publishes the performance appraisal reports of leading cadres and the results of the certification of the personnel of party, soviet, and economic organs. The republican newspapers publish a weekly survey of public opinion.

In January and February of this year the republic Communist Party Central Committee received virtually as many letters as in the whole of 1986. This is one indication of the sharply increased social activeness of the people of Kazakhstan, who condemn the worthless methods of activity of the republic's recent leaders. In these letters they ponder the fact that a lack of control and total license were the main reason for the negative phenomena.

The plenum unanimously condemned protectionism in the placement of cadres, when tribal ties, kinship, and friendship were the determining factors in their selection. The participants advocated that labor collectives have the first and the last say in cadre decisions. After all, when today one of the contenders for a leadership post wins the contest, this is not only a personal victory for him, it is a victory for democracy and the collective opinion.

Now that a process of purification is under way and the names of the officials who flouted our moral principles and Soviet laws for mercenary purposes are being made public, many people are wondering: "Why do these people include those who worked under the direct leadership of D. Kunayev?"

That is by no means an idle question. In heading the Kazakhstan party organization for many years, D. Kunayev did much for the republic's development. In time his former services, and also the authority of his name and his post became a kind of screen concealing major shortcomings in the Central Committee first secretary's activity to lead the economy, crude violations of the principles of social justice, and distortions in cadre policy. S. Mukashev, chairman of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Yu. Trofimov, first secretary of Aktyubinsk party obkom, Ye. Auyelbekov, first secretary of Kzyl-Orda party obkom, and N. Nazarbayev, chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers, cited specific examples of this in their speeches.

"Immature people who were often infected with patriarchal tribal survivals were undeservingly promoted to leadership posts," M. Mendybayev, first secretary of the Alma-Ata party obkom, said at the plenum. [paragraph continues]

"Individual instances of protectionism developed into a phenomenon. All this was done with the tacit consent and sometimes the direct support of the leadership of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee. It was extremely difficult to get rid of unworthy personnel who had compromised themselves since this was hampered by D. Kunayev's immediate entourage, and often by him himself."

The plenum participants reached the conclusion that party proceedings should be instituted against D. Kunayev, former first secretary of the republic Communist Party Central Committee, for crude violations of the norms of party life, the creation of his personality cult, the distortion of cadres policy, and the manifestations of total license, which led to the development in the republic of protectionism, abuses of official position, bribery, and corruption and to nationalist and other negative phenomena. The Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Bureau was instructed to convey this opinion to the CPSU Central Committee, of which he is a member.

The plenum instructed the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Party Control Commission to investigate the reasons for the subjective approach shown by writer O. Suleymenov, member of the republic Communist Party Central Committee, toward defending the criminal Kovinko, former director of an Alma-Ata production association for meat production, and the circumstances surrounding the release of a full-length movie devoted to D. Kunayev's 70th birthday.

Many of the Central Committee members who took part in the debate rose above everyday facts in their speeches and made generalizations. The roots of the present apolitical attitude of a section of the population, they said, should also be sought in their ignorance of the true history of the republic and its party organization. The passage of time will strip away the accretions. The present difficult, crucial period in the history of the republic and its party organization will not be distorted by half-truths, deliberate silence, and embellishment. It must be and will be a reliable launchpad for faster progress.

KOMSOMOL DAILY ON CONGRESS IN KAZAKHSTAN

PM151901 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 11 Mar 87 p 1

[Special correspondents Yu. Geyko and A. Lapin report: "A Businesslike Mood. Notes from the 16th Kazakh Komsomol Congress"]

[Text] Alma-Ata -- In the mornings, the weather is really wintery in Alma-Ata, but by midday you already want to throw off your overcoat -- streams are flowing, chickadees are whistling: It is warm. Two seasons combine in one single day in March -- the old and the new, that which has been and that which is to come.

The 16th congress of the republican Komsomol did not miss the effect of this law: The jargon of officialdom learned by heart on the one hand, and impassioned monologues about personal experiences on the other; the customary chanting of slogans on the one hand, and confessional speeches -- at times bitter, but honest and even revelatory -- on the other.

Let us be frank: It was a joy to see the faded old robes of pomposity, dumb inhibition, and obsequiousness come off some delegates literally before your very eyes, to see the audience getting livelier after each speech.

Sergazy Kondybayev was elected first secretary of the Kazakh Komsomol Central Committee 2 weeks before the opening of the congress. "Why?" That was the question asked in a note from delegates addressed to Komsomol Central Committee Secretary V. Shaplyko. "How could he deliver an accountability report?"

"This is a matter for your republic Komsomol Central Committee," V. Shaplyko replied. "Confusion in this context would be understandable if this congress is perceived as important for accountability purposes. I think, however, that now the republic party and Komsomol leadership would be mainly concerned with the tasks of the future."

Sergazy Kondybayev is familiar to both KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA journalists and its readers: He led the Pavlodar Komsomol Obkom in 1983, when our newspaper organized its first festival at the Ekibastuz Territorial Economic Complex. Both sides displayed businesslike efficiency, proper organization, sincerity, and passion for contacts and changes, and maybe this is why the festival remained unforgettable for both guests and hosts.

There was very little time left, just a few days, and therefore work on the report went on until the last moment.

Members of the [Kazakh] Komsomol Central Committee made very many critical remarks on the report at the plenum, before the congress.

The accountability report only gained from this work. It became more critical, emphasis was shifted to unresolved problems, and -- and this is the most important point of all — it mapped out new avenues for restructuring the entire work of the republic Komsomol.

The accumulated problems were numerous. It seemed as if the restructuring of Komsomol organizations here was stillborn. The problems discussed at the previous congress, 5 years ago, not only have remained but have also grown, become aggravated, and given rise to new ones.

For example, the 15th congress named 14,000 lagging young workers, and this number had risen to 30,000 by the time of the present congress. There has been a sharp decline in the number of Komsomol and youth teams in sheep breeding. Yet, 5 years ago the task that was set was -- no more and no less -- making sheep breeding a young people's sector.

The title of Komsomol and youth collective was depreciated as a result of assessment of achievements by quantity, in gross terms, by volume. 2,500 such collectives proved to exist only on paper.

The slackening of ideological work among young people generated a decline of interest in public affairs and manifestations of lack of spirituality or skepticism. There was an increase in the stratum of young people for whom the purpose of life boiled down to material prosperity and making gains by any means. Drunkenness and drug addiction took root, hooligan groupings appeared in the republic capital. While the Komsomol workes were thinking about indicators to measure their successes in ideological work, life itself was making its own assessment of it. The December events in Alma-Ata mercilessly exposed the results of inactivity, self-conceit, and detachment of the ideological aktiv from real life and the masses.

All this was said openly and publicly in the accountability report which, actually, ought to have set the tone of conversation. Yet, a sincere and keen conversation failed to develop immediately in the course of the discussion. This was also felt by the delegates. One note after another was handed to the presidium.

The session chairman started giving the floor not just to those who had registered in advance and had prepared the text of their speeches, but also to those who had not managed to register but did have something to say.

Initially, the difference between the former and the latter was plainly visible even, as people say, to the naked eye, but gradually an atmosphere developed in the hall of the V.I. Lenin Palace in which many who had prepared beforehand abandoned their texts and spoke for themselves: The rostrum became really free. After all, the presence of microphones in the hall is ultimately not an objective in itself, and if someone has an opportunity but is afraid to mount the rostrum, the microphones become even insulting because they appear not as signs of democracy but just as props.

"Komsomol members today do not want to work in the old fashion, and we are unable to lead in the new fashion," Sergey Lapshin, first secretary of the Aktyubinsk Komsomol Obkom, told the congress. "Unless we cut off bureaucracy at the roots, we will be unable to advance our work."

One recalls how many Komsomol workers admitted this in the wake of the December events in Alma-Ata:

"Only now do we have the feeling that we can work properly, that we are needed. Then we used to go to the young people, at the actual hot spots and hostels, we used to speak openly and bluntly with the kids, and each one had to shoulder both risk and responsibility. A short while later everything used to return to the same old rut...."

Is it really possible that extreme circumstances are necessary to make people start to work at long last?

During the precongress period we visited several of the capital's raykoms. Usually they are located next to other organizations which always have visitors, people waiting for someone, demanding something. The raykom passages and offices, however, are eloquently deserted. How can anyone be surprised that the Kazakh Komsomol Central Committee received just 1,744 letters during the period under review? Less than one letter per day!....

The struggle between the new uncompromising approach toward poeple and their behavior and the old all-forgiving approach flared up right here, at the congress, and became absolutely dramatic when the rostrum was mounted by Yerken Mashakayev, painter and decorator at the "Uralskpromstroy" Trust:

"Why did I hand a note to the presidium requesting I be given the floor as a matter of urgency? Because some people in the hall have no faith in these notes, they have no faith in the tasks we are solving now. These comrades often see misdemeanors by senior officials. They see them, and yet keep silent. The leaders who have committed the misdemeanors mount the rostrum and deliver fine speeches. Let me give you an example: On our way here, to the congress, an incident occurred -- a drinking bout. A discussion among delegates was held yesterday, and we demanded that our Komsomol leaders who were involved in the incident explain: Why did they allow such a thing to happen, how will they look us in the eye and give us orders after that?"

It was also here, at the congress, that a special commission was set up after Ye. Mashakayev's speech to investigate the event, and the question of A. Davletzhanov and S. Kalugin, first and second secretary respectively of the Uralsk Komsomol Obkom who took part in the drinking bout, was put to the general vote. The congress resolved to deprive them of their delegate's mandates, but is it not alarming that 23 percent of delegates voted against punishment for drunkenness and the same number abstained?... Is it not worrying to hear people say either publicly or quietly that drinking has become almost a Komsomol tradition?

In one way or another, the most painful and burning question, the question of cadres, was raised in almost every speech. On this issue, the delegates were already unanimous: The time has come to abandon the stereotyped approach, based on paper qualifications, when selecting leading Komsomol workers. The Komsomol today needs not complacent and competent kids, and not even those who are just good; what it needs are outstanding, original, and committed people. Only they can properly advance the cause of restructuring.

Meetings during breaks betwen sessions also produced quite a few unexpected turns. Byrganym Aytimova, secretary of the Kazakh Komsomol Central Committee, evidently did not expect that a group of delegates would be so persistently demanding in the introduction of an amendment to the draft resolution on the confirmation of young people's rights.

"You must understand, this will be done only when the law on youth is passed. We simply do not have the legal power...."

"Nevertheless, a suitable form must be found and our demand must be submitted," the delegates insisted. "Time is passing. It is necessary to act right away. This requires some sort of legal basis."

From the kind of problems raised during sessions it became possible to form a judgment about the breadth of young people's interests and about the fact that Kazakhstan's Komsomol organizations are beginning to take a direct look at life of young people.

"We are striving to somehow accelerate the solution of the housing problem," Vladimir Kolomytsyn, first secretary of the Dzhezkazgan Kazakh Komsomol Obkom, said. "Without waiting for the ministers to loosen the purse strings, we are building a small housing complex for young people. The further we advance, the more problems we encounter. Take for example the quality of plans, not a single one is suitable for our zone. Dzhezkazhgan has no potential for elaborating such project This is why I propose that architecture students attempt to elaborate them. We also need assistance from ministries and departments. Hitherto they have done nothing in fulfillment of the USSR Council of Ministers resolution on this matter."

Indeed, the construction of young people's housing complexes in the republic is still not properly developed. Not too many of them are in existence today. Even those that have been built cannot be described as young people's housing complexes in the real sense of the word because, in the usual fashion, the Komsomol and youth teams have erected nothing but housing. The situation must change radically as of this year. A republican program, "Housing-91," has been elaborated now at the initiative of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee. A special place in it has been allocated to the construction of young people's housing complexes and cooperatives. Provision has also been made for other forms of young people's participation in the construction and allocation of housing.

One small point is still lacking -- to launch this work on a broad scale. Not just this work, but also the problem of ensuring the construction of kindergartens, sports facilities, and clubs.

The congress demanded action, it demanded restructuring. The lessons of democracy, publicity, and demandingness toward one's own self and one's comrades, taught by the older generation, did not fail to produce their effect.

That was also to be noticed in the level of criticism voiced at the congress. Regardless of the individuals concerned, criticism was leveled at the leadership and at the Komsomol Central Committee, but there were particularly numerous reproaches addressed to the Kazakh Komsomol Central Committee. One of the speakers -- Valeriy Danilevskiy, Komsomol committee secretary at the Sokolovsko-Sarbayskiy V.I. Lenin Mining and Enriching Combine -- proposed that the work of the Kazakh Komsomol Central Committee be deemed unsatisfactory.

All the speeches displayed a sincere and ardent desire to restructure work and start living in the new fashion. But here, at the congress, it was also noticeable that by no means everyone is still clearly aware of how this is to be done.

"No one here has mentioned yet that the former style of work was much more convenient for us," Mitrambek Nurmakhambetov, first secretary of the Turkestanskiy Komsomol Raykom, said. "But that is so. Today we find ourselves at a crossroads and have still not learned the new methods. The training of cadres at the republican higher Komsomol school cannot stand up to any criticism."

Indeed, the system of Komsomol cadres training was also criticized by other delegates. Numerous examples were cited of the school's inefficiency and the incompetence of its lecturers.

Speaking from the congress rostrum, poet Mukhtar Shakhanov repeated the workds by Abu Nasr al-Farabi, spoken by the great son of the Kazakh land to one of its sovereigns: "Show me your young people, and I will immediately determine what the state will be like in the future."

All who took part in the work of the 16th Kazakh Komsomol Congress, who saw the delegates speaking on television or heard them on the radio, and who read the speeches published by the local Komsomol press without cosmetic editing, were convinced that the movement forward has started -- not without difficulties, mistakes, or failures, but it has started. That the further it progresses, the more real will restructuring become.

That the republic's future is in reliable hands.

S. Kondybayev was elected first secretry of the Kazakh Komsomol Central Committee.

G.B. Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, and V. Shaplyko, secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, took part in the work of the congress and addressed it.

TASS NOTES CHERNOBYL-RELATED TRIALS TO BEGIN

LD131130 Moscow TASS in English 1125 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- The persons guilty of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant are to go on trial in Kiev shortly, said Academician Andranik Petrosyants, chairman of the U.S.S.R. State Committee for Atomic Energy.

Addressing a news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists, he said that the construction of units No 5 and 6 had already begun at the site of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

AFP Cites Petrosyants

AU131229 Paris AFP in English 1206 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, March 13 (AFP) -- The trial of those responsible for last April's nuclear accident at the Chernobyl plant in the Ukraine is to open shortly in Kiev, the head of the Soviet state committee for nuclear energy announced here Friday.

Andranik Petrosyants, speaking at a news conference, did not name those who would be tried, and did not say the penalties they faced. He also announced that construction work, stopped after the accident, had resumed on a fifth and sixth reactor at the stricken plant.

Mr. Petrosyants said: "It will be known at the trial who has been brought to trial and for what." He refused to comment on whether the plant director was among those involved.

Thirty-one people have so far died from the Chernobyl accident, and a total 135,000 local residents were evacuated.

Mr. Petrosyants said that most of the workers from the plant had returned to work, where full shifts were continuing at number one and two reactors.

SEVERAL DEAD, MISSING IN TAJIK MUDSLIDE DISASTER

PM181133 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 18 Mar 87 p 4

[S. Smirnov "On the Spot" report: "After the Elements Struck"]

[Text] Dushanbe -- Homes destroyed and half-covered in mud, communication lines down, roads washed away, and sludge where only yesterday there were green fields is the picture presented in the aftermath of the natural disaster. A government commission arrived in Kulyab Oblast's Dangarinskiy Rayon in Tajikistan only hours after the blind forces of nature had struck. This is what V. Lomakin, member of the commission and chief of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Water Resources and Rural Construction Section, had to say:

"More than 1,600 people lived in the settlement of Sargazon, through which the wave of water and mud passed. Some 500 of them are without a roof over their heads. Fifty-three houses have been completely destroyed. According to the latest figures, 31 people have died and 4 are missing. The search goes on.

"The dam of the Sargazon reservoir, which is part of the Dangarinskiy irrigation system, was breached early on the morning of 16 March.

"That same day the whole republic came to the victims' assistance. The injured were removed without delay to rayon and republic hospitals and the homeless received tents and accomodation in trailers. Rescue teams, brought in by helicopter from other rayons in the republic, are combing the area day and night and repairing damaged buildings and sections of road."

Relief Work at Site

LD181630 Moscow TASS in English 1559 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Dushanbe March 18 TASS -- Vast aid by the Soviet state and public allowed the Tajik republic to start expeditiously coping with effects of the natural calamity in the mountains of Tajikistan, central Asia, caused by torrential rains. The two years' precipitation that fell there in the course of several days triggered landslides. Water broke through the dam of the Sargazon water reservoir flooding most severely Sargazon village. Human casualties are reported.

The entire republic shared the suffering and grief of the flood-affected people. An extraordinary government commission led by Izatullo Khayev, chairman of the republic's government, visited the disaster-hit area right after the tragic events. The residents of the flood-stricken settlement were urgently evacuated to safety.

Each family was granted either a warm tent or a mobile house as a temporary dwelling unit. Everybody was supplied free of charge with food, warm clothing and fuel.

The population of neighbouring villages invited those suffered to their house. Soviet trade unions and the Red Cross Society set aside a gratis loan of 500,000 rubles for the bereaved families and those who suffered. Residents of the neighbouring Leninabad region, which was jolted by a powerful earthquake on October 19, 1985, sent tents, mobile houses and food to the disaster-plagued area. Such examples are legion.

The republic's government sent building materials, machines, specialists and workers to the flooded area. State insurance bodies recoup losses to cooperatives whose farms were afflicted by heavy showers and mud flows. Credits were extended to carry out restoration work. The competent bodies investigate the causes of the dam break at the Sargazon water reservoir.

SMIRNOV WRITES ON ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN FACTORS

PM161521 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 87 First Edition pp 2-3

[Article by G. Smirnov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, under the rubric "Questions of Theory:: "The Revolutionary Essence of Renewal"]

[Text] There are turning points in history, when major new problems mature and when there is a particular need for them to be understood not only by political leaders but by the broad masses. It was precisely such moments that K. Marx had in mind when he said that ideas become a material force as soon as they are grasped by the masses. One of the most popular and widespread concepts today is the concept of "new thinking." These words reflect the crucial nature of our time, the need to accelerate the country's socioeconomic development, and the desire to reach a quantitatively new level in the socialist development of Soviet society.

New thinking is a broad and complex concept which applies not only to the various spheres of specific practical activity (the creation of a new economic management mechanism, the establishment of priorities in scientific and technical progress, the transition to complete financial autonomy and self-financing, the orientation of social policy on people's needs, and so forth). It is also the conceptual assimilation of the revolutionary essence of the renewal process. That is why the party makes broad philosophical generalizations and seeks to characterize the prevailing mechanism of slowdown [tormozheniye], whereby arises the task of revealing the content of present contradictions and conflicting antitheses, since only this approach makes it possible to grasp in all its depth the revolutionary essence of what is happening and the transformations that are planned or under way.

Restructuring has now left the planning sphere and entered into broad practice. At the same time we are, as M.S. Gorbachev has repeatedly stressed, still at the beginning, when the main job -- and that means the hardest job -- is still to come. This emphasis is a warning against being distracted, losing our energy, or overestimating what has been accomplished, and it gears us to further comprehend both general and specific problems.

Perhaps the hardest part of the present situation lies in the recognition of the dramatic question: How could it be that, after carrying out the greatest revolution, which changed the course of events in this country and the world, after creating an enormous economic, scientific, technical, and intellectual potential, and after experiencing the joy of these great achievements we have now been forced to indulge in criticism and self-criticism, and in such a resolute form at that? Why are Soviet people not content with how they lived and worked previously?

The answer to these questions demands we reveal the content of specific socioeconomic and political phenomena, relationships among people, and the motives for their behavior.

The fact is that no trend or contradictory process can be understood without turning to the people -- the vectors of those trends. If development happens through the conflict of opposites and the overcoming of contradictions, it means the task lies in more or less clearly revealing the social content of conflicting antitheses. Contradictions never develop anonymously, but always through people's behavior, and are linked with certain groups of people and their social position.

The value of the theoretical analysis carried out at the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum lies precisely in the fact that this research relates not only to theoretical and political concepts -- which is by itself necessary and natural -- but also to specific groups of people with certain interests and aspirations. This, incidentally, is one of the remarkable traditions of Marxist-Leninist theoretical analysis left to us by V.I. Lenin.

At the January plenum the party leadership took a principled step in analyzing the historical period that preceded the Central Committee April (1985) Plenum. It directly indicated that the CPSU Central Committee and the country's leadership were unable, for primarily subjective reasons, to assess in a timely and full manner the need for changes and the danger of an increase in crisis phenomena in society or to work out a clear line for overcoming them and making full use of the potential inherent in the socialist system. Conservative sentiments, inertia, a desire to brush aside everything hat did not fall in with the conventional scheme of things, and a reluctance to solve urgent socioeconomic problems prevailed. All this could not fail to affect and indeed did affect all spheres of social life, political practice, and theoretical thinking.

We regarded, as if spellbound, centralized ways and means of management and planning that had been set up in the thirties and partly modernized since then, often accepting them as the only right and fullest expression of the essence of the characteristics of the socialist system. It is well known that centralized forms of running the economy played an enormous role in socialist building, first and foremost in solving such vitally important tasks as the industrialization and collectivization of the country and the mobilization of the economy in the war against Hitlerite fascism. Centralized management methods in their previous form were inefficient under changed conditions.

We recall that Lenin was constantly concerned about the need to ensure the right relationship between centralism and local initiative. Alas, this concern of Lenin's was not properly understood. We lost a great deal by excluding from enterprising economic activity hundreds of thousands of labor collectives and millions of specialists and workers and depriving enterprises of their rights to financial autonomy. All this had a negative effect on the introduction of the achievements of science and technology into production and the restructuring of our economy. The attempts to reform the economic mechanism in some way were weak and inconsistent and therefore did not yield results.

The implementation of the principle "from each according to his abilities, to each according to his labor" proved even harder. As is well known, a line of narrowing wage levels was anmnounced. The idea itself was fair. However, in the process of implementing it we actually reduced the pay levels of skilled workers, particularly engineers, doctors, and teachers. These leveling tendencies led to a fall in material interest in productive and high-quality work. A lot of negative consequences were engendered by the prejudice applied to the role of commodity-money relations and the action of the law of cost -- something which was convincingly pointed out at the 27th party congress and the January Central Committee Plenum.

Finally, because of the relaxation of control over the measure of work and consumption, embezzlement, bribery, speculation, and the practice of obtaining unearned income took root on quite a broad scale in an atmosphere of complacency and total license, which gave rise to recurrences of the petit bourgeois way of life and petit bourgeois mentalities.

The materialized elements in the mechanism of the slowdown in socioeconomic development (and, of course, by no means all of them have been listed here) were produced, as has already been stated, by causes of a subjective nature. They are not of objective necessity enshrined in the socialist economic system. The roots of this slowdown, as was pointed out at the January Central Committee Plenum, lie in serious shortcomings in the functioning of socialist democracy and in obsolete political and theoretical aims.

I think it would be right to say this line of the previous leadership's also had a political side to it. The fact is the measures implemented by the party leadership following the October (1964) Central Committee Plenum were essentially aimed against the democratization of the party and state apparatus that had been implemented, albeit without system or clear purpose, until then. For instance, certain democratic norms introduced into the party statutes were revised. There was an inclination toward stable, verified, and above all centralized forms of management, a fear of searching, a reluctance to change the existing state of affairs, and so forth.

That, briefly, is the social nature of the slowing mechanism that took shape in Soviet society and influenced the emergence of stagnation phenomena in its development. This mechanism was not homogeneous: Sometimes its nature was defined by conservatism based on weak will and incompetence, sometimes by individual and group egoism. Great damage was done by departmental and parochial trends supported by bureaucratic and technocratic elements guided merely by transient interests. Prevailing practices and prevailing forms and methods of work suited them just fine. To use philosophical language, the gnosiological roots of this subjectivist thinking and its corresponding management method lay in the absolutization of centralism, while its social roots lay in its lack of faith in the people's creative power and its guarded attitude to democratic methods.

Restructuring and renewal encompass all spheres of social life. However, social life depends to a decisive extent on democracy in action to place the entire restructuring process under the people's control and to create reliable guarantees of its irreversibility.

In terms of its social nature and political thrust, socialist democracy is the highest achievement in history. From the viewpoint of the development of the mechanism of the institutions of socialist democracy and the forms and methods of the people's power, serious shortcomings have taken shape which shackle the people's activeness and the party's creative forces. Formalism during election campaigns, underassessment of openness, shortcomings in monitoring -- particularly "from below" -- and so forth were all major reasons for the masses' passivity, failings in the management sphere, ineffectiveness in decisionmaking, and a lack of resolution and inflexibility in implementing the planned course.

With enormous potential at their disposal and operating in virtually all labor collectives, many primary party organizations were unable to retain principled positions. By no means every one of them conducted a resolute struggle against negative phenomena, total license, mutual protection, slack discipline, and the spread of drunkenness and alcoholism. Departmentalism, parochialism, and nationalist phenomena were not always properly rebuffed. All these negative processes could not fail to effect people's mood and moral stance. The meaning of values in socialist society such as ideological conviction, labor enthusiasm, and Soviet patriotism was devalued. Manifestations of spiritual aridity and skepticism emerged. A coterie of people -- including young people -- emerged for whom profit became the main theme of their activity.

The question arises: How could the dominating influence of socialist ideology, norms, and the principles of socialist consciousness have been maintained given this growth of negative phenomena? The fact is that socialist traditions and ideals had taken deep and firm root in the people and the party, and that is why the negative phenomena failed to undermine the foundations of socialist consciousness and socialist values. At the same time the institutions of democracy were unable in their existing form to effectively counteract the negative phenomena.

The question of stepping up the role of the broad working people's masses in running public affairs was not posed as a practical task or linked with the resolution of urgent economic, social, and other problems. Yet at the same time, as we are well aware, V.I. Lenin could not conceive of socialism without this. He repeatedly talked about the need for participation by /each and every/ [phrase within slantlines published in boldface] working people in the running of social affairs and saw the shortcomings in working people's knowledge and sociopolitical and cultural standards as an obstacle to the resolution of this task at that time, because illiterate people stand outside of politics.

Currently society's need for precisely this universal participation by the masses in running social affairs is becoming more and more urgent. The masses' culture and political training accord with this task. As for the sociopolitical content of the measures being implemented to democratize society, they directly coincide with the development of socialism and are the embodiment of the Leninist idea that communism is a matter for everyone.

An economic base is now being provided for this process. The switching of enterprises to new economic management conditions and the introduction of self-financing and self-capitalization increase the responsibility of working people, collectives, and their leaders for the results of economic activity many times over. Under these conditions collectives must have the right to and the material opportunity for autonomous [samostoyatelnyy] management. Leaders' abilities, competence, and resourcefulness are crucial not only for the fulfillment of state plans, but also for the collective's material prosperity and the satisfaction of people's cultural and consumer needs. Naturally, the democratic method of electing leaders will have a substantive impact on their behaviour, the fruitfulness of their activity, and the level of organizational and political work in the collective.

In the new situation the joint owner -- the people -- becomes the actual master of social property through labor collectives and obtains real rights and opportunities to use social property in the interests of society and the labor collective in each specific sector. A fundamentally new economic, social, and political situation is being created in which the relationship between leader and follower is being built on a profoundly democratic basis.

One area for the development of democracy is the restoration of the role and importance of production sharing, which still has not only unexhausted potential but great prospects. Cooperative ownership is now turning into an important avenue for economic development and for enhancing working people's economic activeness. In this respect the measures outlined for expanding rhe social base of Soviet democracy will play their part.

The strengthening and development of such attributes of socialist democracy as openness, criticism, and self-criticism are the guarantee that there will be no repetition of past mistakes. They are needed for the radical transformations of all spheres of social life and for educating the masses in a spirit of political activeness and responsibility. To that end openness, criticism, and self-criticism should be not just a moral or even political norm, but a legal norm reinforced by appropriate legislation. [paragraph continues]

A major contribution to this has been made by the adoption of the law on state enterprises, the allocation of great rights to enterprise collectives, and the establishment of enterprise councils.

To a decisive extent the success of what is planned depends on the restructuring of the party itself. In this regard tasks have been put forward for expanding intraparty democracy and enlivening all party work and the democratization of the mechanism for forming elective party organs.

All this shows that restructuring itself is only possible through and by means of democracy. "The question today is either democratization, or social inertia and conservatism. There is no other way..." M.S. Gorbachev said at the 18th Trade Union Congress.

The January plenum developed the theory and policy of restructuring. It was described from different viewpoints and positions: the stepping up of reliance on the masses; more effective utilization of democratic centralism; a resolute turn toward science; priority development of the social sphere; resolute struggle against negative phenomena in the moral sphere; and struggle for a healthy moral atmosphere and social justice. The ultimate goal of restructuring is to profoundly renew all aspects of the country's life, to give socialism the most modern forms of social organization, and to most fully reveal our system's humanitarian nature in all its decisive aspects -- economic, sociopolitical, and moral.

Why do we talk about the revolutionary essence of what is happening and the revolutionary nature of the transformations taking place? After all, a revolution means qualitative changes in prevailing social relations. Why do we not restrict ourselves to a comparatively harmless and more common term -- reform? Are we not actually talking about a reform, and using the words "revolution" and "revolutionary" rather as an example or a kind of metaphor to emphasize the seriousness of what is happening and the resolute nature of our intentions?

The subtlety of this problem is that it is not a question of a sociopolitical revolution whereby the foundations of an old system's economic relations are destroyed and a fundamentally new political power reflecting the interests of the classes staging the revolution is established. The situation here is different. It is a question not on destroying social ownership of the means of production, but of strengthening and making more effective use of it. It is a question not of rejecting the basic socialist principle "from each according to his abilities, to each according to his work" but of a more consistent application of it in the interests of social justice. It is not a question of wrecking state power, but of further strengthening the socialist state of all the people, deepening socialist democracy, and developing the people's socialist self-management. It was noted at the January Plenum that, in terms of its profoundly revolutionary essence, the Bolshevik audacity of its plans, and its humanitarian socialist thrust, the work currently under way is a direct continuation of the great achievements begun by our Leninist party in the October days of 1917.

Here the question arises of comparisons being drawn with collectivization and the cultural revolution. We proceed on the basis that they were revolutionary in terms of their importance and consequences. Although they took place in more or less clearly organized spheres of social life, they essentially marked further progress by the country down the road of the socialist revolution and the completion of the October cause in these spheres.

How do these current revolutionary transformations differ from collectivization and the cultural revolution?

First, nowadays there are no antagonistic classes in society, whose elimination and the destruction of whose ideology were an essential feature of the revolution.

Second, the measures currently being implemented are all-embracing in nature and must affect all spheres of life.

Third, the current transformations are being implemented on our own socialist foundations and are aimed at strengthening those foundations, developing them in every possible way, completing and improving the building of socialism, and turning Soviet society into really developed socialism.

A revolution is not a one time shot but a process, during which revolutionary tasks are deepened and the new system's ideas and principles are asserted. K. Marx and V.I. Lenin repeatedly indicated the path to the victory of socialism would be incredibly complex and difficult.

Since the restructuring process has a deep effect, it concerns the interests of virtually all people -- which is quite natural: Some are inspired, others plunge into despair, and others simply cannot stand it. They include idlers, people who are used to lording it over their own sector, and plain old embezzlers of public funds. There are opponents of restructuring and honest people in thrall to old ideas. They proceed on the principle: Nothing should be changed because we do not know whether things will be better afterward. It is obviously going to take prolonged educational work and political struggle to achieve successful implementation of the political line. However, it can be said that the people in their masses have actively supported restructuring and are supporting it more and more.

The motive force of restructuring is the working class, true to its revolutionary traditions. The nature of the working class and the character of the transformations it has implemented in the course of the socialist revolution are such that they contain a very strong critical principle. We recall the well-known assessment of proletarian revolutions which K. Marx provides in his work "The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte." These revolutions, he wrote, "constantly criticize themselves... return to what seems already accomplished to start over, and with merciless thoroughness make fun of the half-heartedness, weak points, and unsuitability of their first attempts..." (K. Marx, F. Engels. Works Vol 8, p 123)

This gives rise to the fundamentally important conclusion that the need to take a critical approach to what has happened and to redo and complete what has already been created is a natural feature of fluid revolutionary processes and the entire building of a new society.

Let us try now to briefly formulate the generalized meaning of the measures being implemented and the processes taking place in the country. They represent the radical and profound surmounting, relying on the masses' labor and social activeness, of features alien to socialism and conservative mind-sets and forms and methods of work. They are the affirmation of new and progressive forms of the organization of social relations that accord with Lenin's idea about socialism as a society based on the principles of collectivism, social justice, and democracy. Finally, they represent the accelerated pace of society's movement and a break with its gradual development. All this taken together represents a leap forward from one societal state to another, higher-quality state -- a leap that has been prepared on the one hand by the historic achievements of socialism, and on the other by the urgent demands of removing negative phenomena, trends, and obsolute forms from social life. [paragraph continues]

These are the main signs of a continuing and deepening socialist revolution; this is the revolutionary essence of the renewal of Soviet society.

Time marches on and inevitably raises new problems, creates new conditions, and puts forward new tasks which have never existed before.

Take, for instance, the development of scientific and industrial complexes. This most interesting phenomenon attests to the need for a new organizational solution to the tasks of pooling science and production. These new forms of production relations became possible only under the conditions of the scientific and technical revolution and as the socialist planned economy's response to its needs.

Or, say, the agro-industrial complex as a social phenomenon, as a fundamentally new solution to the task of integrating town and country. This, of course, represents unprecedented forms put forward by life and a new system for organizing labor and economic mutual relations.

All the problems of the scientific and technical revolution, its achievements and shortcomings, and the negative processes that accompany scientific and technical progress taken as a whole constitute a new and complex reality demanding unprecedented new solutions.

The transformations currently under way are just the start of even more important and profound changes which must release socialism's enormous potential, give scope to its development, and thereby meaningfully prove that genuine progress by mankind is only possible on the path of the socialist restructuring of society.

PRODUCTION EXPANDS AT ESTONIA PLASTICS FACTORY

LD151441 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0505 GMT on 14 March broadcasts a 40-minute video report entitled "The Secret of Success" on the Tartu Plastics Factory in Estonia. The program opens with the reporter noting that the Tartu Plastics factory has a very successful production record, extensive recreational facilities, low staff turnover, worker participation in decisionmaking, and is very well organized. The reporter adds that the factory has been largely reconstructed over the past 6-7 years. A senior manager at the Tartu plastics factory states that they have been operating under the new economic management system since January, but that more work should be done on new regulations to raise productivity. (video shows exterior and interior shots of plastics factory and workers' recreational facilities)

METEOROLOGIST EXPECTS SPRING FLOODS, ICE JAMS

PM171007 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 87 Morning Editions p 6

[Interview with A. Zhidkov, deputy director of the USSR Hydrometeorological Center, conducted by own correspondent G. Alimov under the "Details for IZVESTIYA" rubric: "What the Spring Floods Will Be Like" -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] The USSR Hydrometeorological Center has prepared a forecast regarding the spring floods to be expected in the country. What will the general situation be like? Your IZVESTIYA correspondent converses with A. Zhidkov, deputy director of the USSR Hydrometeorological Center, about this.

[Alimov] Where have the largest amounts of snow built up, Aleksey Pavlovich?

ZKhidkov] They have built up on the fields of the Ukraine, the Central Chernozem Zone, Rostov and Volgograd Oblasts, Stavropol and Krasnodar Krays, and Georgia. The water content of the snow cover in the river basins of those territories is 2-3 -- in places 4-5 -- times above average.

[Alimov] How often does this happen?

[Zhidkov] This is the first time, at least in the last 40-50 years of observations. Of course, not all of the water will drain into the rivers, some of it will disappear into the soil or evaporate. But the rest will nevertheless cause high water.

[Alimov] Where, according to your calculations, will the most trouble be caused by the spring flood in 1987?

[Zhidkov] The highest levels -- 2-4 meters above the annual mean -- are expected in the rivers of Donetsk, Voroshilovgrad, Kharkov, and Volgograd Oblasts. The spring flood in the rivers of Georgia, Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays, Kiev, Kirovograd, Dnepropetrovsk, Zaporozhye, Poltava, and Suma Oblasts will be 1-2 meters above the norm. Roughly the same situation will obtain in the rivers of the Bashkir ASSR, Chelyabinsk, Sverdlovsk, Orenburg, Kurgan, Ural, Guryev, and North Kazakhstan Oblasts.

[Alimov] You have not mentioned at all other large regions. What will the situation there be like?

[Zhidkov] In the remaining places everything will probably be within mean levels or below the norm. For example, the maximum level of flood water is expected to be 0.5-1 meter below the norm in most rivers in the North, Central, East Siberia, and Far East Regions...

[Alimov] Clearly we will not escape the overflowing of rivers and flooding?

[Zhidkov] Clearly that is the case. The water will not spare farm land, agricultural facilities, or parts of cities and villages situated near rivers. That includes cities like Kharkov, Voroshilovgrad, Poltava, Kursk, Bryansk, Orel, Novgorod, Pskov, Kirov, Ryazan, Gorkiy, Ufa, Orenburg, Uralsk, Guryev, Petropavlovsk, and others.

[Alimov] Too little water entered the rivers and reservoirs of Central Asia last year. It was a difficult summer... What is it like now?

[Zhidkov] There is a bit more snow than usual up in the mountains there.

[Alimov] Although spring has officially begun, the snows, according to reports, have not yet begun to melt.

[Zhidkov] Unfortunately so. It could happen that the spring flood will begin all of a sudden.

[Alimov] Please say something about the drifting of ice. Could there be jams?

[Zhidkov] The ice will begin drifting on the rivers of the Ukraine and Rostov Oblast 5-10 days later than usual. In Belorussia, the Baltic, and the Central Chernozem Oblast the rivers will be clear by the end of March, beginning of April. The central oblasts will clear in the first 10 or 20 days of April. Most rivers in the European territory will be free of ice by the middle of May. The ice is very thick -- the intensely cold weather in January did its work. Consequently, we must expect ice jams.

SPRING FLOODS 'POSE NO RADIOACTIVITY THREAT'

PM161105 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 87 First Edition p 1

[Correspondent M. Odinets dispatch: "Before the Flood. Chernobyl AES: Chronicle of Events" -- first paragraph printed in boldface]

[Text] Kiev -- In just a few days' time the springtime waters will be on their way, swelling thousands and tens of thousands of streams and rivers on their way to the sea. What will this spring's high water bring to Kiev Oblast along the Dnieper, Desna, and Pripyat Rivers? What has been done to prevent radioactive particles making their way into the general water flow? What is the role of scientific institutions and the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences in this regard? The first to answer these questions was N. Skrypnik, chief of the Ukrainian Republic Administration for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control.

This year's high water is expected to be somewhat higher than last year. Last year, melting snows added 17 cubic km of water to the Dniepr, Desna, and Pripyat Rivers, but this figure will reach approximately 20 cubic km this year, with water levels in the Kiev region reaching about 700 cm. But since the average long-term level stands at 750 cm, the anticipated flood causes no fears at all. But the situation will be tense in the Ukraine's eastern oblasts, where the snowfall was 2-2.5 times more than usual.

In the Chernobyl region, in which we are most interested, the inflow of water into the Pripyat River will be about 6 cubic km. Radiometric monitoring conducted by workers from our operational group shows that the snow's radioactivity in the region is much lower than the permitted norm. The snow is virtually pure, almost the same as it was this time last year, before the accident. The Pripyat River's banks have been reinforced. And even if the river does burst its banks, the water will be held back by flood protection installations. The region of the industrial site, Pripyat and Chernobyl, the ponds, the reservoirs, and the polluted sections have all been thoroughly reinforced.

An icebreaker and demolition squads are standing by in the event the Pripyat River freezes over. Powerful equipment and large stocks of ballast, sand, and rubble are concentrated in areas where the water is likely to burst through.

The entire protection system along the river banks, consisting of bank walls, filter dams, and dikes, is on standby. Its main task is to limit the migration of radionuclides and prevent the pollution of river water.

K. Sytnik, vice president of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences and director of the republic Academy of Sciences Botanical Institute, said:

The fear felt by some people in connection with the forthcoming high water are groundless, even though it is perfectly natural for scientists and practitioners now to pay attention to the snow's condition and the indicators of water purity and quality. Research done by our hydrologists, hydrobiologists, and hydrogeologists shows that the soil did not freeze and some water from the regions adjacent to Chernobyl penetrated it. This means that part of the radionuclides will not now be carried by the spring high water. But some increase of radionuclide content in the water is inevitable. This pollution will be considerably lower than allowed by the norms. Various organizations, including scientific organizations, have done very much to improve water quality through additional purification. And even though we are absolutely confident that everything will be in order as regards the water, these questions are being discussed daily in the academy's institute together with officials from the Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources and the State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control.

A specialized section, operating on the tour of duty method of work, has been created in Chernobyl. It has been supplied with the necessary quantity of machines and materials. During the high water period its workers will conduct daily monitoring of the water's radioactivity level, including the smaller rivers in the AES zone -- the Uzha, Teterev, Irpen, Desna, and other rivers -- where 15 samples a day will be taken; 22 daily samples will be taken from filtration installations, and 20 daily samples from the Kiev and Kanev reservoirs.

MEDIA COVERS 15-18 MAR AGRICULTURAL WORK

LD190549 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 15-18 March. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

15 March

It is only a matter of days until the start of sowing cotton, the main crop in Uzbekistan. The republic's state agricultural commission reports that to date 280,000 metric tons of seed have been stored for the crop in the republic. As to quantity, the farms' requirements will be fully met. But as to quality of seed stocks, there are serious misgivings. A test carried out on the spot by experts of the state agricultural commission showed that in a number of oblasts the seed stocks have excessive moisture content. (0304)

16 March

No fileworthy items monitored.

17 March

Farms in the Altay are preparing for the spring. The structure of grain fields has been confirmed; special attention is being given to spring wheat, and only strong and hard varieties are to be sown. The wheat will be grown according to intensive technology on more than 1 million hectares. (1500)

18 March

In Tajikistan the cutting of greens has started. The mechanizers of the Vakhsh valley have started to harvest the perennial feed crops -- perko and rape. The crop yield is 100 quintals per hectare of green material. The perennial feed crops take up 200,000 hectares of the republic's land. (2304)

BOARD PUBLISHES FIGURES ON KOLKHOZES SINCE 1970

LD111504 Moscow TASS in English 1308 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 11 TASS -- The Statistical Board of the USSR has published figures on the development of collective farms (cooperative farms) in the country during the past fifteen years.

In 1970 the cooperative farms had 16.7 members while the figure for the beginning of this year is 12.6 million. This means a drop of 4.1 million in the number of farmers who feed the entire population of the USSR (281.7 million). The area of ploughland has also declined -- by almost eight million hectares.

In the same period the output of farm produce went up from 67.1 to 78 billion roubles.

The capacity of machinery and equipment used by farms has almost doubled. The number of tractors increased from 942,000 to 1,169,000, the number of grain harvesters from 292,000 to 380,000 while the number of trucks has grown by about a half. Yet the share of manual labour in agriculture is yet great. So the immediate task is to replace it with machines.

TASS ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF COSMOS-1833 SATELLITE

LD181432 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1414 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar (TASS) -- Another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1833, was launched in the Soviet Union today.

The satellite carries scientific apparatus for continuing space research. The satellite has been placed in an orbit with the following parameters:

-- Initial period of revolution -- 101.9 minutes;
-- Maximum distance from surface of earth (apogee) -- 878 km;
-- Minimum distance from surface of earth (perigee) -- 851 km;
-- Orbital inclination -- 71 degrees.

Besides scientific apparatus the satellite carries a radio system for the precise measurement of orbital elements and a radiotelemetry system for transmitting to earth data about the work of the instruments and scientific apparatus. The apparatus aboard the satellite is working normally. The coordinating and computing center is processing the incoming information.

COSMONAUTS CONTINUE WORK ABROAD 'MIR' COMPLEX

LD171157 Moscow TASS in English 1137 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- A TASS special correspondent reports from the ground control center:

Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveking are continuing their space flight aboard the orbiting Mir (peace) complex.

They will devote much of their working day today to geophysical studies. Using photographic cameras and spectrometers, they will take several series of pictures of Soviet territory, in particular Kazahkstan, South Siberia and the Far East.

An experiment into space material studies, which was started on March 13 with the use of the korund (corundum) plant, is drawing to a close. Its aim has been to produce monocrystals of a semi-conducting material in zero gravity and determine the optimum modes for the plant.

Along with performing the flight's program of research, the cosmonauts have continue to mount extra equipment brought by the Progress-28 freighter on board the space station.

Yesterday they replaced individual components of the life-support system and installed several new instruments.

According to the spacemen's reports and telemetry data, the flight of the manned Mir complex is proceeding normally.

The cosmonauts are in good health and feeling well.

'DIALOGUE' EXAMINES MULTINATIONAL UNITS POLICIES

PM170949 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Mar 87 First Edition pp 2, 3

[Own correspondents Lieutenant Colonel V. Bezrodnyy and Major A. Goncharov report: "The Multinational Military Collective. Dialogue Between a Military Sociologist and a Deputy Regimental Commander for Political Affairs" -- first six paragraphs are KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] Red Banner Volga Military District -- On the Saturday when we visited the N Motorized Rifle Training Regiment together with Candidate of Philosophical Sciences Colonel Yu. Deryugin, chief of the military-psychological problems group of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, the military settlement was in the grip of preparations for a field exercise.

"Not a great deal of time is allowed for the education of junior motorized rifle submit commanders," Major V. Yelovets, the deputy regimental political commander, told us. "This is a characteristic feature of our service which calls for the efficient organization of the training and educational process and the mobilization of all reserves with a view to strengthening the cohesion of the multinational military collectives...."

A song rang out above the drill square.

"They sing well," Deryugin said, surveying the formation.

"It is not easy to compose a good song," the political commander said with a hint of a smile.

This is how the dialogue between the military sociologist and the political commander which we have prepared for publication opened. A dialogue on an important and topical theme -- on ways to strengthen the cohesion of multinational military collectives.

Col Yu. Deryugin: Vladimir Petrovich, right at the beginning of our conversation you emphasized that in your unit much attention is being paid to strengthening the cohesion of the multinational military collective. But has not the multinational nature of our Army always been its distinctive feature?...

Maj V. Yelovets: When my military career started, 20 years ago, there were only a few people from the Central Asian republics and Kazakhstan in my unit. Now there are many more. [Yelovets ends]

Details about the regiment's sociological makeup: The regiment's fall 1986 intake included representatives of more than 20 of the USSR's nations and ethnic groups. Among these young soldiers Russians total 43 percent, Tatars 15 percent, Chuvashes 12 percent, Uzbeks 6.3 percent, Bashkirs 5 percent, Maris 3 percent, Ukrainians 2.1 percent. Turkmens, Kazakhs, Armenians, and Kirghiz 2 percent each; and Georgians, Ossetes, Mordvinians, Azerbaijanis, Tajiks, and all others 5.6 percent.

Col Yu. Deryugin: Lately, I must say, this is a typical picture. There are regiments in which 30 and more nations and ethnic groups are represented. [paragraph continues]

As a rule, the number of representatives of the nations and ethnic groups of Central Asia, Kazakhstan, and the Transcaucasus is on the increase. The structure of the national representation in our Army and Navy fully corresponds to the structure of the national representation in the country as a whole as reflected in the latest population census.

It would be interesting to know how you deploy personnel in the subunits in these circumstances? What principle you use as a guideline?

Maj V. Yelovets: We seek to distribute the servicemen of the various ethnic groups equally in companies, details, and sections. In the company under the command of Senior Lieutenant A. Teleshev, for instance, I would like to single out the section headed by Senior Sergeant O. Gulyayev. There are two Russians, three Uzbeks, one Bashkir, one Mordvinian, one Chuvash, one Kirghiz, and one Kazakh. That makes six people in the section who know Russian well.

Col Yu. Deryugin: As I understand it, your main aim in making up subunits is to have a good distribution of servicemen who speak Russian well. This seems to indicate that the educational standard of the draftees is low, does it not? [Deryugin ends]

Details about the regiment's sociological makeup: Of the young servicemen 5 percent have higher education, 14 percent are technical school graduates, and 80 percent are high school graduates

Maj V. Yelovets: We have every reason to say that the draftees are literate or highly educated people. But of late we are increasingly frequently coming up against cases like the following: Private Sh. Tashtemirov is a graduate of the Fergana Agricultural Technical School but his Russian is very poor, and the Russian vocabulary of Privates G. Georgadze from Georgia and B. Turgunov from Uzbekistan who have received 10 years of schooling is limited to a dozen words.

Col Yu. Deryugin: What steps are you taking to teach the young servicemen Russian in the company or the battalion?

Maj V. Yelovets: We regard this task as our duty. We are succeeding, albeit with difficulty, in helping the servicemen to master the Russian language.

Russian language study circles have been set up. They are organized and supervised by deputy battalion commanders for political affairs. With the help of servicemen of Russian nationality and servicemen with higher education one-to-one tuition has been organized. However, we regard intensive combat training activity by personnel as the key to the elimination of the language barrier.

Col Yu. Deryugin: Does that mean that the Russian language as a means of inter-nation communication is mastered more successfully the more intensive the training process is?

Maj V. Yelovets: This is indeed the case. For instance, Russian-language teaching was most successful in the company under the command of Captain S. Derksen. This collective pledged that it would gain the rating "excellent" during the past training year. A persistent struggle was waged in the subunit for the effective utilization of every hour of training time, mutual assistance between servicemen was well organized, special attention was paid to young servicemen who for one reason or another were lagging behind in training. [paragraph continues]

The collective's efforts were crowned with success. The company servicemen were pleased: They had given their word and they had kept it. Both the teachers and the students of Russian had an incentive to work well, they had a common interest.

Col Yu. Deryugin: It would be interesting to know to what extent you take the draftees' social standing into account when making up multinational military collectives? [Deryugin ends]

Details about the regiments's sociological makeup: Before being drafted into the army 39 percent of the young servicemen worked at plants and factories, 25 percent worked in agriculture, 17 percent represent the intelligentsia, and 18 percent are students and apprentices.

Maj V. Yelovets: To be honest, nothing beyond collecting statistical information is done in this respect here.

Col Yu. Deryugin: This is a serious mistake. Young servicemen must be deployed in subunits not only bearing in mind their knowledge of the Russian language, but also making sure that yesterday's workers and apprentices, kolkhoz members and students, Komsomol members and young people not belonging to the youth union, and graduates with higher and secondary specialized education serve shoulder to shoulder, in one formation. This kind of organization, as practice has borne out, swiftly leads to the creation of a healthy moral climate in military collectives.

Tell me now, do people in your unit form cliques based on regional ties or nationality?

Maj V. Yelovets: Yes, people do form quite close-knit groups. Especially during the first days after their arrival in the regiment.

Col Yu. Deryugin: This is quite understandable. It is quite natural for a person who finds himself in a new, strange environment, in this case the Army, to seek support among people who come from the same region or servicemen who share his nationality. But small groups of this kind can also have a negative impact, as sociological analysis has proved. It is precisely in such informal associations that trends toward national exclusiveness and sentiments of national arrogance manifest themselves. Because they are outside the sphere of influence of commanders, political officers, and the party and Komsomol aktiv, they may become the breeding ground for all kinds of negative phenomena.

What can be done in these cases? It is very important promptly to expose such groups, to identify their "leaders," and, on the basis of the circumstances, to adopt the necessary educational and preventive measures. And it is especially important that this is done during the initial state of the young servicemen's adaptation in the collective.

Maj V. Yelovets: In order to prevent cliques from exerting a harmful influence, we try to involve young servicemen in lots of activities and make them feel part of the common cause, from the very outset of their military service. After all it is in the process of learning and combat training that servicemen find reliable comrades on whom they can depend, develop new personal qualities, and gain a new outlook on life.

Col Yu. Deryugin: This is quite true, it is necessary to help the young serviceman to find his place in the formation and to teach him to cope with difficulties. And here you cannot get by without inspiring examples for the servicemen to emulate.

Maj V. Yelovets: We have a little experience in this area. Recently during a field exercise I noticed how attentively servicemen were listening to Captain Valentin Nikolayevich Kuzmin, deputy battalion commander for political affairs. What was the political officer who arrived in our regiment after having served in the limited contingent of Soviet forces in Afghanistan talking about? About the courage and valor of Sergeant Ali Adilov, who was decorated with the "Combat Merit" medal, about Corporal Bakhodyr Badalov, who despite being wounded did not leave the battlefield and carried on with the task assigned to him, and about Private Farhad Mirzakabilov, who lost his life while saving his seriously injured detail commander, Warrant Officer Sergey Denichenko. Such examples serve as an inspiration to people.

However, not all the regiment's officers are as yet able to conduct and organize work in a multinational collective as Captain Kuzmin does.

This applies above all to young officers who have only recently graduated, Lieutenant A. Golovanov and Lieutenant B. Sokolov, for instance, and others.

Col Yu. Deryugin: What shortcomings do you see in their work?

Maj V. Yelovets: Above all ignorance of national traditions, national mentality.

At military academies the future officers undoubtedly get a general idea about the main points of working in multinational military collectives. But when they arrive in the Army they come up against real people, and having a general idea is not enough.

I have recently completed a correspondence course at the V.I. Lenin Military Political Academy. Together with my comrades I heard many lectures about the development of relations between nationalities in socialist society and about taking these processes into account in Soviet military building. I wrote papers and passed examinations and I caught myself thinking: I am learning everything in general terms. For some reason our scientists refuse to come down to earth, to make an analysis of the practical problems of educational work in multinational military collectives, and to draw up the appropriate methodological guidelines.

Col Yu. Deryugin: Here, Vladimir Petrovich, you have driven me into a corner. Our military scientists -- historians and philosophers -- are doing a great deal to interpret the processes which are taking place in the Armed Forces in general. But as for "coming down to earth," you have hit the nail on the head...

The officers who act as instructors must, of course, have the necessary literature, including methodological literature, and special works to help them in their practical work. To this end it is necessary to stimulate their interest in available publications. In many cases libraries are a long way away from officers. And vice versa, officers do not always make a special effort to go to the library -- sometimes because there is not enough time, sometimes because of lack of interest. Librarians and book propaganda agents must visit battalions and companies. Information centers can also be of great help.

Maj V. Yelovets: Unfortunately, so far there is only talk about establishing an information center in the regiment. The formation does not have such a center either. People say there was one in the past. But hardly anybody ever used it.

Col Yu. Deryugin: Preparations for the 70th anniversary of Great October will give a new impetus to the work in the patriotic and international education of young army servicemen. Naturally, it will be a kind of review of the achievements of the Land of the Soviets along the path of the acceleration of socioeconomic development. It is important to make every young servicemen aware of the fact that these achievements were made possible thanks to consistent, sustained internationalism, thanks to the friendship and fraternity of the peoples. It was emphasized at the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum that everything that we have achieved has come through joint efforts.

Thematic soirees, morning meetings, and amateur art performances devoted to this anniversary must, above all, provide broad scope for propagandizing the things that bring the servicemen of various nationalities closer together and unite them. These are their common socialist motherland and their common military duty to reliably defend it. These events must provide opportunities for propagandizing traditions such as loyalty to the combat banner, conscientious fulfillment of military duty, friendship and comradeship in arms, and defense of your commander in battle. How is the work to educate the servicemen of various nationalities in the spirit of the glorious traditions of the Army and the Navy organized in your unit, Vladimir Petrovich?

Maj V. Yelovets: The officers are making active use of details from the combat annals of our regiment for this purpose.

Col Yu. Deryugin: The name of Hero of the Soviet Union Senior Sergeant Nikolay Rytov is to remain on the roll of your regiment forever. Much is being done in the regiment to publicize the feat of the frontline hero. But there are also serious omissions in this work. For instance, the Komsomol members of the company on whose roll the name of the hero has been permanently entered have promised to gain the rating "excellent" for their subunit. They have given their word, but they have not kept it. In the regiment there is a combat vehicle which bears the hero's name. In the past, monthly competitions were held for the right to drive this vehicle, to shoot from it. But somehow with the passage of time this initiative has been forgotten in the company.

Maj Yu. Deryugin: I would ascribe shortcomings of this kind to the insufficient standard of educational work. We are organizing all kinds of measures, but the returns are not great. Why? Because these measures are not systematic and consistent enough. That is the first reason.

And the second reason is that the thematic soirees, morning meetings, and readings of all kinds are frequently boring, dry and stage-managed. It is necessary to learn to talk about heroic feats in a way that makes servicemen want to emulate them.

Maj V. Yelkovets: It is always a pleasure when on first acquaintance with young servicemen you sense their readiness, instilled in the family and at school, to conscientiously learn the military skills and to steadfastly overcome the difficulties and discomforts of military service. You sense, as it were, that a solid foundation has been laid in the family and at school.

Col Yu. Deryugin: Much can be learned about the character, abilities, and interests of every serviceman in the course of intensive one-to-one work with him. How is this work with servicemen of different nationalities organized in the regiment?

Maj V. Yelovets: We try to learn as much as possible about every serviceman. Where he was born, where he grew up, what his interests are, who are the people who are close to him.

Correspondence with servicemen's families helps us to gain a better picture of servicemen and their inner world. During the first week after the draftees' arrival here, the subunit commanders wrote to their parents asking them to tell them about their son, about the way he grew up, about his character. Answers to all the letters have been received. They indicate that we have quite a few young servicemen here who come from so-called problem families. [Yelovets ends]

Details about the regiment's sociological makeup: From among last fall's intake, 98 people grew up without a father, 13 without a mother, and 11 people have neither a father nor a mother.

Col Yu. Deryugin: I do not entirely agree with the term "problem family" in the case of a family where there is no father. Frequently the boys who grow up in this kind of family are independent and organized, they know the value of life. On the other hand in families with both parents boys are frequently brought up as egoists, sissies, and so forth. However, this reservation does by no means mean that this factor should be ignored in practical educational work.

There are clear guidelines for the work in the international education of servicemen. They have been defined in the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum. In everyhing that concerns the development of relations between nationalities, the January Central Committee Plenum resolution says, it is necessary to display special sensitivity and circumspection, party principledness, and concern for the strengthening of the friendship and fraterniy of the peoples of our country, to resolutely overcome negative phenomena in this sphere, and to uncompromisingly stamp out any manifestations of nationalism, chauvinism, Zionism, antisemitism, parochialism, parasitism, and national narrow-mindedness and arrogance and to counter them with consistent and sustained internationalism. [Deryugin ends]

The dialogue which we have recorded does not claim to have exhausted all the problems which exist in ensuring the cohesion of multinational military collectives. We hope that this dialogue will be continued by commanders, political officers, party and Komsomol aktivists, or any other KRASNAYA ZVEZDA readers.

BRIEFS

CONSCRIPTS' PHYSICAL CONDITION -- At the 22d Kirgizia Komsomol Congress attention was drawn to the generally low level of physical preparation of conscripts for the rigors of army life. Only 40 percent of the conscripts from Kirgizia match up to the GTO [gotov k trudu i oborone: ready for labor and defense] standard of physical fitness. In the case of the Naryn area, the figure sinks to 18-20 percent. The conscripts' knowledge of Russian is poor, which makes it hard for them to serve in military units. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1415 GMT 11 Mar 87 LD]